



Playa Linda's 35th Anniversary

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Prosecutors: Paul Manafort believed he was above the law

By CHAD DAY and ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP)

— Paul Manafort orchestrated a multimillion-dollar conspiracy to evade U.S. tax and banking laws, leaving behind a trail of lies as he lived a lavish lifestyle, prosecutors said Tuesday as they laid out their case against the former Trump campaign chairman.

During his opening statement, Assistant U.S. Attorney Uzo Asanye told the jury that Manafort considered himself above the law as he funneled tens of millions of dollars through off-shore accounts. That "secret income" was used to pay for personal expenses such as a \$21,000 watch, a \$15,000 jacket made of ostrich and more than \$6 million worth of real estate paid for in cash, Asanye said.

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Protesters Gayelynn Taxey, left, and Danny Hastings, stand in front of the Alexandria Federal Court in Alexandria, Va., Tuesday, July 31, 2018, on day one of Paul Manafort's trial.

Associated Press



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New Homeland Security center to guard against cyberattacks

By COLLEEN LONG

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is creating a center aimed at protecting banks, electric companies and other critical infrastructure against cyberattacks — a threat that now exceeds the danger of a physical attack against the U.S. by a hostile foreign group, Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said Tuesday.

The National Risk Management Center will work to quickly identify and address potential threats and improve safeguards across a range of industries, she said. It will prioritize risks to industries that most Americans rely on, like the power grid. It is designed to be a partnership with private companies and federal agencies, with Homeland Security as the lead agency.

The department's election security task force, created last year, will become part



Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen, right, and U.S. officials including National Security Agency General Paul Nakasone hold a meeting with CEO's at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Cybersecurity Summit, Tuesday, July 31, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

of the new center, officials said.

Nielsen spoke at a cybersecurity summit hosted by government officials that brought CEOs of credit card companies, telecommunications industries and utilities together with the heads of the NSA, FBI and

Department of Energy.

The summit comes during renewed concern over the possibility of Russian-sponsored meddling in the midterm elections, and criticism of the Trump administration's efforts on cybersecurity.

Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-

Missouri announced that Russian hackers tried unsuccessfully to infiltrate her Senate computer network and Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-New Hampshire, told The Associated Press that someone contacted her office "claiming to be an official from a country." She is not up for re-election.

President Donald Trump has offered mixed messages on Russian interference in U.S. elections — at times even calling it a "hoax," though he acknowledged in a recent tweet that the midterms are a likely target. Nielsen said Tuesday the government cannot allow Russian interference again.

"Let me be clear on this, any attempt to interfere in our elections is a direct attack on our democracy, it is unacceptable, and it will not be tolerated," she said. "Mark my words: America will not tolerate this meddling."

Nielsen said Tuesday the

threat is not limited to elections, and cannot be underestimated. She cited as examples the credit bureau breach where half of Americans had personal information exposed online, plus the WannaCry ransomware that spread from North Korea to more than 150 countries, and Russian hackers compromised the control rooms of U.S. energy companies.

"These incidents, though, are only the beginning," she said. "Rogue regimes and hostile groups are probing critical systems worldwide every moment as we speak. And without aggressive action to secure our networks, it is only a matter of time before we get hit hard in the homeland."

At a summit panel, the heads of MasterCard, AT&T and Southern Company talked about the need to work together to create a systemic solution to secure the internet. □

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PAUL MANAFORT

Continued from Front

"A man in this courtroom believed the law did not apply to him — not tax law, not banking law," Asonye said as he sketched out the evidence gathered by special counsel Robert Mueller's team in Manafort's bank fraud and tax evasion trial.

It's the first trial arising from Mueller's investigation into potential ties between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and Russia. Mueller was not present in the courtroom.

Defense attorney Thomas Zehnle said in his opening statement that Manafort trusted others to keep track of the millions of dollars he was earning from his Ukrainian political work.

He made clear that undermining the credibility of Rick Gates, his former business associate and the government's star witness, is central to the defense strategy. Zehnle said Manafort, earning millions as a political consultant helping officials in other parts of the world, relied on Gates and others — including a professional accounting firm — to keep watch over the money.

"Money's coming in fast. It's a lot, and Paul Manafort trusted that Rick Gates was keeping track of it," Zehnle said. "That's what Rick Gates was being paid to do."

He warned jurors that Gates could not be trusted and was the type of witness who would say anything he could to save himself from a lengthy prison sentence and a crippling financial penalty.

Gates, who spent years working for Manafort in

Ukraine and is also accused of helping him falsify paperwork used to obtain the bank loans, cut a plea deal with Mueller earlier this year. Gates also worked as an aide on Trump's campaign.

Manafort, who has been jailed for nearly two months, wore a black suit and appeared fully engaged in his defense, whispering with his attorneys during jury selection and scribbling notes as the prosecution began its opening statement.

Before the start of jury selection Tuesday, prosecutors filed an expanded list of its evidence exhibits, including several email chains between Manafort and Stephen Calk, a Chicago bank chairman. The added evidence also appears to include documents related to bank accounts in Cyprus.

The government intends to show that Manafort funneled more than \$60 million in proceeds from his Ukrainian political consulting through offshore accounts and hid a "significant" portion of it from the IRS.

Asonye said Manafort created "bogus" loans, falsified documents and lied to his tax preparer and bookkeeper to conceal the money, which he obtained from Ukrainian oligarchs through a series of shell company transfers and later from fraudulently obtained bank loans in the U.S. But Zehnle disputed prosecutors' account that Manafort was trying to conceal his earnings by storing money in bank accounts in Cyprus. He said that arrangement was not Manafort's doing but was instead the preferred

method of payment of the supporters of the pro-Russia Ukrainian political party who were paying his consulting fees.

Defense lawyers also sought to address head-on Manafort's wealth and the images of a gaudy lifestyle that jurors are expected to see during the trial.

"Paul Manafort traveled in circles that most people will never know and he's gotten handsomely rewarded for it," Zehnle said. "We do not dispute that."

The judge even interrupted the prosecutor during his opening statements to caution him against suggesting there was some-

thing criminal about being a multimillionaire.

"It isn't a crime to have a lot of money and be profligate in your spending," U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III said. "There was No Collusion (except by Crooked Hillary and the Democrats)!" Trump tweeted early Tuesday. □



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Clash of GOP titans as Trump v Kochs feud escalates

By STEVE PEOPLES and JON-ATHAN LEMIRE

NEW YORK (AP) — The war of words intensified between two titans in Republican politics on Tuesday as President Donald Trump trashed the conservative billionaire Koch brothers as a "total joke in real Republican circles."

The presidential insult followed a weekend gathering of Koch officials who repeatedly condemned Trump's trade policies, the explosion of government spending under his watch and his divisive tone.

The intra-party feud could hurt the GOP in this fall's midterm elections and beyond. While the Kochs refused to endorse Trump's first presidential run, the president's loyalists don't want his 2020 re-election campaign bogged down by lingering bad blood. The Koch network boasts an army of grassroots activists across 36 states and has promised to spend between \$300 million and \$400 million on politics and policy this election cycle alone.



This combination of 2013 and 2012 file photos shows brothers David, left, and Charles Koch. Clash of

Associated Press

"The globalist Koch Brothers, who have become a total joke in real Republican circles, are against Strong Borders and Powerful Trade," Trump tweeted. "I never sought their support because I don't need their money or bad ideas."

The president later added:

"I'm for America First & the American Worker — a puppet for no one. Two nice guys with bad ideas."

Over the weekend, network patriarch, 82-year-old Charles Koch, refused to criticize Trump personally when The Associated Press asked whether the presi-

dent should bear any responsibility for the divisive tone in Washington.

"We've had divisiveness long before Trump became president and we'll have it long after he's no longer president," Koch said during a rare question-and-answer session with reporters. "I'm into hating the sin and not the sinner."

Responding to Trump's social media attack, Koch spokesman James Davis was measured. "We support policies that help all people improve their lives. We look forward to working with anyone to do so," he said.

The day before, the Kochs' political advocacy network announced it would not back the GOP candidate in the North Dakota Senate race, determining that Republican challenger Kevin Cramer's record on government spending made him no better than Democratic incumbent Sen. Heidi Heitkamp in the marquee Senate contest.

The Kochs have not ruled out similar moves in top-tier Senate races in Indiana, Missouri, Montana, and West Virginia, although they are actively working to help elect Republican Senate candidates in Florida, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

"We've got a message for lawmakers across the

country. We are raising the bar, raising expectations," Koch lieutenant Emily Seidel told donors Monday.

While the move echoed across the political world, Republican operatives quietly dismissed the practical impact of the Kochs' decision on the North Dakota Senate race, where Cramer's campaign believes he has a double-digit lead in the deep-red state against the Democratic incumbent. Yet there is a desire for the Kochs to cooperate with Trump allies in other states, such as Nevada and Montana, where Republican candidates are considered more vulnerable.

Some Trump loyalists were furious at perceived contradictions in the Koch network's behavior and worried that it could complicate the president's 2020 re-election.

"The Kochs had zero to do with Trump's win in 2016," former White House counselor Steve Bannon told the AP. "But they were willing to support the tax cut and the deregulation, while opposing the heart of Trumpism — trade and immigration." Trump's animosity toward the Koch brothers, like so much of his anger toward conservative heavyweights, stems from the influential donors' pointed refusal to support him in the run-up to the 2016 presidential campaign. Back then, he criticized Koch-backed politicians as "puppets."

Tensions remained between the two camps — in part fueled by the Kochs' status as key members of the Manhattan donor network, a group that has long rejected Trump, even as the president staffed his administration with a number of Koch alumni.

Trump has complained to confidants that the Kochs "never respected" him and "refused to get on board" his electoral movement, according to a person familiar with his views but not authorized to discuss private conversations. He has expressed worry that they may try to undermine his administration, the person said. □



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Official kneels during Pledge of Allegiance to protest Trump

HADDAM, Conn. (AP) — A town official opposed to President Donald Trump's policies took a knee during the Pledge of Allegiance at a tense meeting packed with more than 100 people, dividing community residents and furthering an intense debate over protests and the First Amendment. Haddam Selectwoman Melissa Schlag faced jeers while she kneeled during the pledge on Monday and asked residents and politicians to not add words to her "silent protest."

"I appreciate everyone coming out because this is truly town government at its best," Schlag, a Democrat, said after the demonstration. "We need to continue

the conversation or hate will continue to fester." Haddam resident Marine Pablo Arroyo told Schlag she should protest on her own time.

"I am not here to disrespect you as you've done to my flag, my country," Arroyo said.

Vietnam veteran and town resident Bob Wallin, who supported Schlag's right to protest, said no one has a right to tell her how and when to exercise free speech.

Before the meeting, about 100 people organized by Republican governor's race candidate Tim Herbst and state Sen. Art Linares rallied in the town, which has about 8,000 residents,



Selectwoman Melissa Schlag kneels for the Pledge of Allegiance during a Haddam, Conn., board of selectmen meeting on Monday, July 30, 2018 at the Haddam firehouse.

Associated Press

to call Schlag's protest disrespectful. A crowd of about 75 rallied in a different part of town in support of Schlag's protest.

Schlag said she began kneeling during the pledge earlier this month to protest Trump's summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin, his hard-line stance on immigration and other policies.

Trump, a Republican, has said his immigration policies and his plan to build a wall along the Mexican border are meant to keep the United States safe.

Schlag said she has no plans to seek higher office. She said she has received harassment and threats over her protest and calls for her resignation. □

Judge rejects gag order request in Stormy Daniels' case

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A federal judge rejected a request for a gag order on Tuesday that would've prohibited porn actress Stormy Daniels's lawyer from discussing her lawsuit against President Donald Trump with reporters and the public.

U.S. District Judge S. James Otero's order came after an attorney for Michael Cohen, Trump's former longtime personal lawyer, alleged that Daniels' lawyer had been running a "smear campaign" against the president. Cohen's attorney, Brent Blakely, argued Michael Avenatti's frequent television appearances and near-daily tweets about Trump and Cohen could taint future jurors. The judge said last week he had some concerns about statements that Avenatti has made about Cohen, but the standard for a gag order was high and it didn't seem as though Cohen had met that burden.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, has said she had sex with Trump in 2006, when he was married, a claim he denies. Days

before the 2016 presidential election, she was paid \$130,000 for her silence in a deal handled by Cohen.

She's suing to invalidate the nondisclosure agreement. Otero also agreed to continue delaying the case for

another 45 days because of a federal investigation into Cohen's business practices in New York. □

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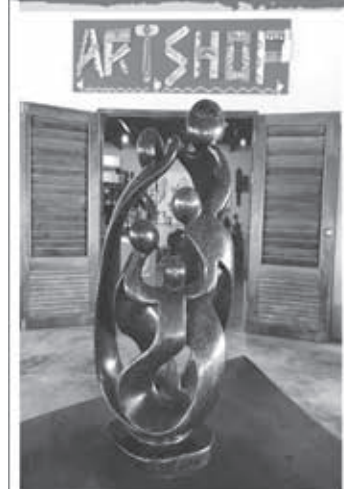
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U.S. says driving would be riskier if fuel standards tougher

By TOM KRISHER and ELLEN KNICKMEYER,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration says people would drive more and be exposed to increased risk if their cars get better gas mileage, an argument intended to justify freezing Obama-era toughening of fuel standards.

Transportation experts dispute the arguments, contained in a draft of the administration's proposals prepared this summer, excerpts of which were obtained by The Associated Press.

The excerpts also show the administration plans to challenge California's long-standing authority to enact its own, tougher pollution and fuel standards. Revisions to the mileage requirements for 2021 through 2026 are still being worked on, the administration says, and changes could be made before the proposal is released as soon as this week.

The Trump administration gave notice earlier this year that it would roll back tough new fuel standards put into place in the waning days of the Obama administration. Anticipating the new regulation, California and 16 other states sued the Trump administration in May.

Overall, "improvements over time have better longer-term effects simply by not alienating consumers, as compared to great leaps forward" in fuel efficiency and other technology, the administration argues. It contends that freezing the mileage re-



In this Jan. 11, 2018, file photo, cars pass the Queensboro Bridge in New York.

Associated Press

quirements at 2020 levels would save up to 1,000 lives per year.

New vehicles would be cheaper — and heavier — if they don't have to meet more stringent fuel requirements and more people would buy them, the draft says, and that would put more drivers in safer, newer vehicles that pollute less.

At the same time, the draft says that people will drive less if their vehicles get fewer miles per gallon, lowering the risk of crashes.

David Zuby, chief research officer at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, said he's doubtful about the administration's estimate of lives saved because other factors could affect traffic deaths, such as automakers agreeing to make automatic emergency braking standard on all models before 2022. "They're making assumptions about stuff that may or may not be the

same," he said.

Experts say the logic that heavier vehicles are safer doesn't hold up because lighter, newer vehicles perform as well or better than older, heavier versions in crash tests, and because the weight difference between the Obama and Trump requirements would be minimal.

"Allow me to be skeptical," said Giorgio Rizzoni, an engineering professor and director of the Center for Automotive Research at Ohio State University. "To say that safety is a direct result of somehow freezing the fuel economy mandate for a few years, I think that's a stretch."

Experts say that a heavier, bigger vehicle would incur less damage in a crash with a smaller, lighter one and that fatality rates also are higher for smaller vehicles. But they also say that lighter vehicles with metals such

as aluminum, magnesium, titanium and lighter, high-strength steel alloys perform as well or better than their predecessors in crash tests.

Alan Taub, professor of materials science and engineering at the University of Michigan, said he would choose a 2017 Malibu over a heavier one from 20 years earlier. It's engineered better, has more features to avoid crashes and additional air bags, among other things. "You want to be in the newer vehicle," he said. An April draft from the Trump administration said freezing the requirements at 2020 levels would save people \$1,900 per new vehicle. But the later draft raises that to \$2,100 and even as high as \$2,700 by 2025. Environmental groups questioned the justification for freezing the standards. Luke Tonachel, director of the clean-vehicle program

at the Natural Resources Defense Council, said the risk from people driving more due to higher mileage is "tiny and maybe even negligible."

Under the Trump administration proposal, the fleet of new vehicles would have to average roughly 30 mpg in real-world driving, and that wouldn't change through 2026.

California has had the authority under the half-century-old Clean Air Act to set its own mileage under a special rule allowing the state to curb its chronic smog problem. More than a dozen states follow California's standards, amounting to about 40 percent of the country's new-vehicle market.

Asked if he thinks a freeze in U.S. mileage standards is warranted, EPA acting administrator Andrew Wheeler told a small group of reporters at EPA headquarters last week, "I think we need to go where the technology takes us" on fuel standards.

Wheeler did not elaborate. Agency spokespeople did not respond when asked specifically if the EPA acting chief was making the case that modern cars could be both fuel efficient and safe.

Wheeler also spoke out for what he called "a 50-state solution" that would keep the U.S. car and truck market from splitting between two different mileage standards.

The Department of Transportation said in a statement that the final fuel economy standards would be based on sound science. □

4, including boy, dead in murder-suicide amid custody battle

By MICHAEL R. SISAK and JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York City dad who had ranted online that his life was being destroyed by a trans-Atlantic custody fight fatally shot his 6-year-old son, his ex-wife and his current wife before turning a gun on himself, police said. James Shields opened fire Monday night at his Queens apartment on what his father said was one of the last days of a summer visitation with his son, Giacomo James.

James Shields Sr. said his son's ex-wife, 47-year-old Dutch artist Linda Olthof, had been raising Giacomo in the Netherlands and was due to take him back there next week.

Shields Sr. said Tuesday that his grandson, known as Jimmy, was "a beautiful boy." He defended his son as a "good man."

Shields, 39, wrote in an online post that Olthof only wanted Jimmy in the U.S. for two weeks a year. Shields said that was something "I just can't accept as a father." He posted his custody dispute rant on GoFundMe in April under the subject "Child Kidnapping."

Shields, a licensed physical therapist, was armed with a pair of Glock pistols and had seven extra maga-

zines loaded with dozens of rounds of ammunition, police said.

He had a permit to keep guns in his residence and the pistols appeared to have been legally purchased, according to investigators.

A building caretaker saw the bloodied first-floor apartment through a window while taking out garbage and called 911. A throng of officers, some in heavy tactical gear, responded to the low-rise brick building.

Police held off on releasing the name of Shields's current wife, also from the Netherlands, pending notification of her family. The Dutch government said she was 38 years old.

Olthof and her son arrived in New York for Shields's visitation on July 21, Chief of Detectives Dermot Shea said.

Shea said Shields' neighbors appeared to know little about him. Police were called last December when someone heard people arguing and possibly throwing things around in his apartment.

Shields wrote that Olthof had gone back to the Netherlands while pregnant because she couldn't find work in the U.S. as an artist. He said the move forced him to spend "a



Police officers stand in front of a building where there was a shooting with multiple fatalities in the Queens borough of New York, Tuesday, July 31, 2018.

Associated Press

fortune" to see Jimmy as a baby.

Shields complained that the financial stress of their dispute was ruining his life and destroying his second marriage.

"I had the perfect life a few years ago but it has spiraled out of control," Shields

wrote. "I desperately need any help you can provide." The posting was pulled from GoFundMe by Tuesday afternoon.

Shields, a co-founder of a Manhattan physical and occupational therapy practice, described himself in an online bio as a "wan-

nabe anthropologist" who enjoyed traveling to new and exotic locations. He said volunteering at a nursing home at age 16 led to his career in physical therapy.

His business partner, reached by telephone, declined to comment. □

Activists block trains, protest Minneapolis police shooting

By YOUSSEF RDDAD
MINNEAPOLIS (AP)

— Activists and family members of a black man who was fatally shot by Minneapolis police marched through downtown Tuesday, blocking trains during the evening rush hour as they chanted some of Thurman Blevins' last words: "Please don't shoot me! Leave me alone!"

Roughly 300 demonstrators called for the officers involved to be fired and arrested, though a prosecutor announced a day earlier that he was declining to file charges.

After a rally at the Hennepin County Government Center, the protesters marched along the light rail tracks, shutting down service for nearly an hour as workers were leaving downtown and Minnesota Twins fans were trying to get to a game.

Blevins, 31, was shot June 23 by Minneapolis officers after they chased him into an alley in north Minneapolis. His sister, Darlynn Blevins, said her brother "ran for his life" because he was scared and the officer "emptied his clip into my brother's back." □

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Animals, crops and people all suffer amid Europe's heatwave

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — The heat-wave gripping large stretches of Europe has already been blamed for deadly forest fires and crop failures. Now freshwater fish could be its next victims.

Some regions in Germany sweltered as the mercury hit 39 degrees Celsius (102 Fahrenheit) and the German Meteorological Office said the country's record of 40.3 Celsius (104.5 Fahrenheit) could be topped Tuesday.

Rivers like the Rhine and the Elbe have soaked up so much heat that fish are beginning to suffocate.

"I'm expecting a tragedy as soon as next week," Philipp Sicher from the Swiss Fishery Association told German news agency dpa.

In Hamburg, authorities collected almost five metric tons (11,000 pounds) of dead fish from ponds over the weekend, dpa reported. Firefighters have started pumping fresh water into some ponds and lakes in a bid to raise oxygen levels. Scientists say the record heat seen in Europe but also North America and parts of Asia this year points to the influence of man-made climate change and could become more common in future.

Several of Germany's nuclear power stations are reducing energy output because rivers used to cool the power plants are too warm.

The low water levels have also made shipping more difficult, with a complete ban imposed on boats on



Withered sunflowers in Wehrheim near Frankfurt, Germany, Tuesday, July 31, 2018.

Associated Press

the Oder river in eastern Germany.

Meanwhile, the country's Farmer's Association is asking the government for 1 billion euros (\$1.17 billion) in financial aid to help cover losses from this year's poor harvest.

Association president Joachim Rukwied said German farmers expect the grain harvest to be 20 percent smaller than last year, with rapeseed crops down 30 percent, as it has barely rained during the past 12 weeks, dpa reported.

A group representing potato farmers said they're expecting harvests to be 25 percent smaller than last year and warned that the losses may lead not only to more expensive but also shorter French fries —

because the spuds are so small this year.

The oceans, too, have been affected.

Authorities in Poland last week banned swimming at over 50 beaches along its Baltic Sea coast, after hot weather led to the growth of toxic bacteria in the unusually warm sea. Water temperatures in the Baltic Sea exceeded 23 C (73.4 F) in some places. Emergency water rescuers told vacationers on hot, sandy beaches — from Swinoujście in the west to Gdynia in the east — not to enter the sea, where thick, green-brown cyanobacteria colonies have grown and pose a health threat.

Police in western Germany, meanwhile, rushed to where callers overnight

reported hearing frantic screaming from a woman — but it turned out that a hospital had opened its windows because of the heat and several women there were in labor.

Police dogs in the Swiss city of Zurich have been getting special shoes to prevent them from burning their paws on the scorching streets. Swiss authorities have also cancelled traditional fireworks displays in some areas during Wednesday's national holiday celebrations, citing the high risk of forest fires.

Across Europe, forest fires have already caused major damage. On July 23, at least 91 people died in a wildfire in Greece — the deadliest in Europe for decades.

Temperatures of up to 45 C (113 F) are forecast for Spain and Portugal from Wednesday and authorities are preparing for the mercury to climb even higher through Sunday, increasing the risk of emergencies.

In Spain, 27 of the country's 50 provinces are at "extreme risk" from heat beginning Thursday, the national weather agency said. In neighboring Portugal, the General Directorate for Health warned about dust blowing in from North Africa and authorities said almost 11,000 firefighters and 56 aircraft are on standby to tackle forest fires.

On the other side of the continent, Banak peninsula in northern Norway reported temperatures Monday of 32 degrees Celsius (89.6 Fahrenheit) — highly unusual for the Arctic Circle.

Some are benefiting from the simmering heat.

Beer brewers in Germany have seen sales rise 0.6 percent, or 300,000 hectoliters (7.92 million gallons), in the first half of 2018 compared to the same period last year.

"Especially the alcohol-free types are currently very much sought after," said Marc-Oliver Huhnholz, from the German Brewer-Association.

In Denmark, where the Meteorological Institute reported that the month of July has been the sunniest since they started recording data in 1920, sales of alcoholic beverages dropped in favor of non-alcoholic beers, sodas and white wine, the country's TV2 reported. □



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Aid agency says Yemen port shutdown could double needy

By EDITH M. LEDERER

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The already "staggering" number of 8.4 million Yemenis who don't know where their next meal will come from could double very quickly if ports in the rebel-held north are attacked and shut down, the head of the aid agency Oxfam America said Tuesday.

Abby Maxman, who spent a week in northern Yemen earlier this month, said in an interview with The Associated Press that the country is already "on the brink of starvation or ultimately famine, and the tipping point for that could happen very quickly."

Government forces, backed by a Saudi-led coalition, are trying to retake the port city of Hodeida, the main entry point for food in a country dependent on imports, from Iranian-allied Shiite rebels known as Houthis. The United Nations said Hodeida remains open, but there is growing concern of the impact of a port closure.

Maxman said "the humanitarian implications will be



Abby Maxman, president of anti-poverty aid group of Oxfam America, speaks in New York Tuesday, July 31, 2018.

Associated Press

massive" if Hodeida and the other smaller Red Sea ports controlled by the Houthis shut down.

With a population just under 30 million, she said, 8.4 million people "already are down to one meal per day and don't know where their

next meal will come from, one can see that doubling almost very quickly, or immediately, if and when the ports shut down."

The president and CEO of Oxfam America said families she spoke to in camps for the displaced in Khamer

and Amran "who have suffered at the hands of an ongoing conflict that is far larger than themselves for years" are very caught up in day-to-day survival and lack hope and the ability to see a future for themselves. "And the data corroborates what I saw of children with malnutrition, with people who are looking for one meal per day, not having their basic health needs met, Maxman said.

They feel grateful, she said, "to be in an internally displaced persons' camp."

Maxman said she was struck by Yemen's endemic inequality which she saw first-hand in the capital Sanaa — grocery stores stocked with all kinds of food and fruit and even a popcorn machine and a cotton candy machine, and people struggling to find something to eat.

The Yemen conflict was sparked by the Houthi takeover of Yemen's capital Sanaa in 2014, which routed the internationally recognized government. A Saudi-led coalition allied with the government has been at war with the Houthis since 2015.

Maxman said: "If the conflict continues, if there is an assault or an attack on a major port, if things continue to go a certain way, it would be likely that risk of famine increases." □



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Iran wary of Trump offer for talks, but not ruling them out

By AMIR VAHDAT

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran reacted skeptically Tuesday to President Donald Trump saying that he's willing to negotiate with his Iranian counterpart "anytime," but top officials did not reject a sit-down out of hand.

Ali Akbar Nategh Nouri, a senior cleric and member of the influential Expediency Council, said Trump's suggestion Monday that he would be willing to meet with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani should not be categorically rejected.

"It should be discussed in the Supreme National Security Council," said Nategh Nouri, who is also a former aide to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Nategh Nouri said "we have to contemplate" the gesture, but also cautioned "we should not rejoice over this offer and not get excited."

"Trump may take advantage of this over-excitement," he said, the state-run IRNA news agency reported. "It could be a test for us."

Trump pulled the U.S. out of a deal with several major powers and Iran earlier this year that was meant to prevent Tehran from developing nuclear weapons. He's also said, however, that as renewed sanctions kick in, he expected Iran would call and offer to return to the negotiating table, and that "we're ready to make a real deal."

On Monday he said he could meet with the Iranians with "no preconditions," adding that "if they want to meet, I'll meet anytime they want."

Former President Barack Obama held a brief phone call with Rouhani in 2013, as the talks that led up to the nuclear deal were getting



An Iranian woman walks past paintings of a Persian poetry in downtown Tehran, Iran, Monday, July 30, 2018.

Associated Press

underway. It was the first time the presidents of the two countries had spoken since the 1979 Islamic Revolution and the storming of the U.S. Embassy, which led to the severing of diplomatic ties.

In his first public comments after the remarks, Rouhani himself avoided mentioning Trump's comments, instead stressing the need for the other nations involved in the nuclear deal to forge ahead with their pledges of trying to salvage it.

"Today we are at a very critical point in history regarding the nuclear deal, and Europe's transparent measures to compensate for the United States' unlawful withdrawal from it are very important for the Iranian nation," Rouhani said after talks with new British Ambassador Rob Macaire. Britain, along with China, Germany, France, Russia and the European Union, are negotiating with Iran on preserving the deal.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif noted on Twitter that Iran and the U.S. had two years of talks leading to the nuclear accord.

"US can only blame itself for pulling out & leaving the table. Threats, sanctions & PR stunts won't work. Try respect: for Iranians & for int'l commitments," he tweeted. In Washington, a senior State Department official said Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had no plans to meet with Zarif if they both participate at an Asian security forum in Singapore later this week.

The official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss Pompeo's schedule, said there were "no plans for any engagement with Iran" at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum.

Pompeo will be in Singapore for the forum and related events on Friday and Saturday.

There had been specula-

tion such a meeting might be in the works. On Monday, Pompeo met with Oman's foreign minister in Washington ahead of his trip to Singapore. Oman, which has good ties with both Washington and Tehran, has served as a facilitator of previous talks between the U.S. and Iran, notably during the Obama administration.

The Iranian leadership has previously ruled out one-on-one talks with Trump, following his decision to pull the United States out of the deal under which Iran was given relief from sanctions in return for curbs on its nuclear program.

Iran's semi-official ISNA news agency quoted Rouhani's political adviser Hamid Aboutalebi as saying that for talks to happen, the U.S. needs to rejoin the deal.

Trump withdrew from the landmark nuclear accord in May, saying it was too generous to Iran. He has

vowed to ramp up sanctions until Iran radically changes its policies, including its support for the Syrian government and regional militant groups, something the country's leaders have long refused to do.

Even though Trump said there would be "no preconditions" to talks with Rouhani, he also did not walk back from any of those earlier demands.

With the first U.S. sanctions due to come into effect next Monday, the economy in Iran has already been hit, giving rise to growing fears of prolonged economic suffering.

another round, covering other types of commerce, including oil purchases, goes into effect Nov. 4.

Rouhani on Tuesday again suggested Iran could cause major disruptions in the Gulf region by attempting to block key shipping lanes, saying "Iran has never sought tensions in the region and does not want there to be any problem for the world's waterways, but it will never let go of its right to export oil," the semi-official Mehr news agency reported.

With the U.S. sanctions looming, the Iranian currency has been in freefall, hitting a new low Monday, at 122,000 to the dollar on the thriving black market. It recovered slightly to 115,000 on Tuesday, but concerns are growing as Iranians have seen their savings dwindle and purchasing power drop.

Heshmatollah Falahatpisheh, who heads the parliamentary committee on national security and foreign policy, suggested a U.S. return to the nuclear deal would be needed before Tehran could think of negotiating. □



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Generals from rival Koreas end talks with no agreement

By HYUNG-JIN KIM

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— Rare general-level talks between the two Koreas ended with no agreement Tuesday, but the top delegates said they had a meaningful discussion on easing their countries' decades-long military stand-off.

Experts said it was still unclear whether the rivals can reach any breakthrough agreement on reducing tensions in the near future because South Korea, in close consultations with the United States, must link any expansion of ties to progress in North Korea's nuclear disarmament.

The Washington Post reported Monday that U.S. intelligence agencies have obtained evidence that indicates North Korea is building new long-range missiles despite ongoing disarmament talks with the United States. It cited anonymous officials "familiar with the intelligence" as saying that work on at least one and possibly two intercontinental ballistic missiles was underway.

Tuesday's meeting at the Koreas' shared border village of Panmunjom was the second such high-level military contact since the two countries' leaders held a landmark summit in April and pledged to reduce the danger of another war on the peninsula.

The chief South Korean delegate, Maj. Gen. Kim Do Gyun, said the two sides had a common view in principle on disarming a jointly controlled area at Panmunjom, removing



North Korean Lt. Gen. An Ik San, and his South Korean counterpart Maj. Gen. Kim Do-gyun enter into meeting room inside the Peace House in Panmunjom, South Korea, Tuesday, July 31, 2018.

Associated Press

some guard posts from the Demilitarized Zone that bisects the countries, halting hostile acts along their disputed sea boundary, and conducting joint searches for soldiers missing from the 1950-53 Korean War in DMZ areas. He said the Koreas will continue talks on details of the issues, according to Seoul's Defense Ministry.

Kim described Tuesday's talks as "sincere" and "candid," saying he believes the two militaries could contribute to establishing a lasting peace between the countries. His North Korean counterpart, Lt. Gen. An Ik San, said the talks were "productive" and that he also believes many pending military issues can be resolved.

During the April summit and a June meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un expressed his commitment to the "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula." But there have been concerns that North Korea hasn't taken any serious disarmament measures since then.

North Korea suspended its

missile and nuclear tests and shut down its nuclear test site, and recent satellite photos indicate it also began dismantling key facilities at its main rocket launch site. But many foreign experts believe those are not enough to prove it's serious about disarmament, saying the North must first submit a list of nuclear assets to be dismantled.

North Korea entered talks with the United States and South Korea earlier this year apparently because it urgently needs to revive an economy hit hard by American-led U.N. sanctions. Kim has made it clear that he prefers a step-by-step disarmament process that is matched by reciprocal outside rewards and concessions for each step. Many experts say North Korea merely intends to weaken the sanctions and has no intention of fully giving up its nuclear weapons. Last Friday, North Korea returned what were said to be dozens of remains of American soldiers missing from the 1950-53 Korean War, something Kim promised during his summit with Trump. Trump thanked him for "fulfilling a promise" to send back U.S. remains and said it was a step in the right direction following their summit. In exchange for returning the U.S. war dead, North Korea may demand that the United States agree on a declaration to end the Korean War as a U.S. security guarantee. The Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty, leaving the peninsula in a technical state of war. □

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UN calls on neighbors to receive those fleeing Nicaragua

By GERARDO CARRILLO
CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
PENAS BLANCAS, Nicaragua (AP) — Thousands of people are fleeing political violence and rights violations in Nicaragua following a violent crackdown on anti-government protests. The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights called on other nations Tuesday to help Costa Rica, which has been flooded with thousands of requests for asylum. Giulia Mortrones said she had headed by bus to the Costa Rican border because university students like her had become a target for Nicaraguan police. "We were afraid that something would happen to us," Mortrones said while waiting at Penas Blancas, on the border with Costa Rica. "We are fleeing from there (Nicaragua), from the national police, because they are following all students." The flight of Nicaraguans has intensified in the past month since Ortega's police and paramilitary forces worked to clear the last of the barricades that had been knotting the country's traffic since April. In July, paramilitary forces



Masked women take part in demonstration supporting journalists recently attacked while covering protests demanding the resignation of President Daniel Ortega in Managua, Nicaragua, Monday, July 30, 2018.

Associated Press

attacked students who had been holed up at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, one of the opposition's last bastions in Managua. Then a couple of days later, police and armed, masked civilians routed the opposition stronghold of Monimbo in Masaya, about an hour south of the capital. People who observed the barricades in their neigh-

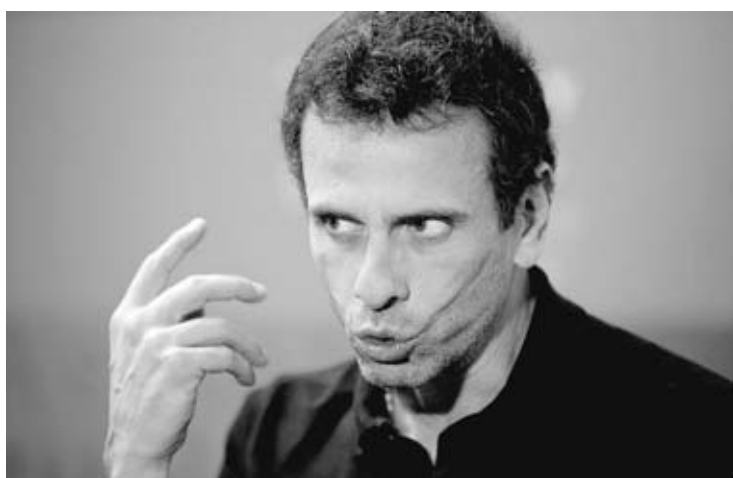
borhoods said government informants had been compiling lists of who was manning them or supporting them. People on those lists are now being systemically hunted and arrested, according to Nicaraguan human rights groups. In Masaya last week, several dozen people, mostly women, waited outside the town's police station for word of their loved ones.

One woman, who declined to give her name because she hoped her son would soon be released, said he had been arrested the week before while trying to flee into Costa Rica. The police had sent him back to Masaya and he was being investigated for his alleged participation in the barricades. Student leader Victor Cuadras, however, made it to

Costa Rica this month. "There's an arrest warrant for me because they're accusing me of terrorism," Cuadras said by phone. He was working to organize support to pressure Ortega. He had already met with former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias and members of the country's legislature. "Those who manage to flee cross to Costa Rica or Honduras," Cuadras said. "There are many who have already been taken prisoner." Journalists saw three young Nicaraguan men ordered off a bus headed into Costa Rica Tuesday at the Pena Blancas crossing, apparently for lack of appropriate documents. The U.N. office said Costa Rica is receiving about 200 asylum applications per day. Costa Rica says nearly 8,000 Nicaraguans have filed asylum claims since anti-government protests began in April and the U.N. agency said "some 15,000 more have been given appointments for later registration as the national processing capacities have been overwhelmed." □

Opposition leader: Venezuela anti-government efforts advance

Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's fractured opposition coalition is advancing in its efforts to unite around a new plan of action as the country's economic crisis deepens, a key anti-government leader says. Henrique Capriles told The Associated Press in an interview Monday that meetings in recent weeks with other anti-government leaders have been productive. He declined to reveal details of the closed-door talks but said an announcement would come soon. The former presidential candidate and ex-governor said that the opposition's challenge now is to unite frustrated Venezuelans who have recently be-



Venezuelan opposition leader Henrique Capriles speaks during an interview at his office in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, July 30, 2018.

Associated Press

gun holding small protests around the nation to project a single political message. Residents have been taking to the streets, upset that their paychecks are being pulverized by ram-

pant inflation and the government's failure to reliably provide basic services such as water and electricity. "It's a challenge for the nurses, teachers and everybody to follow the same path, to articulate the

same political message," Capriles said. Incumbent Nicolas Maduro in 2013 defeated Capriles for the presidency, and last year officials disqualified him from participating in any election for 15 years on grounds of alleged administrative irregularities during his tenure as governor. Capriles denies the allegations. He acknowledged that Venezuela's opposition has struggled to rekindle momentum after near-daily protests that drew thousands to the streets last year. He said now is the time to unite. "Either we do it fast and we do it now — or we disappear," Capriles said. Capriles said that Venezuela's crippling economic crisis could soon force em-

battled President Nicolas Maduro back to the negotiating table. Several rounds of mediated talks between the government and opposition last year failed to reach any agreement, but Capriles now thinks they would be more fruitful, given the government's weakening position. The International Monetary Fund recently projected that Venezuela's inflation this year could top 1 million percent, comparing the country's economic turmoil to Germany's after World War I and Zimbabwe's at the beginning of the last decade. It said Venezuela's economic fall was among the world's deepest in six decades. "Each day, the government's room to maneuver is reduced," Capriles said. □

LOCAL



Playa Linda recognizes long history of associate contributions over its 35 years



ORANJESTAD – The annual mid-year celebration among Playa Linda Beach Resort associates was an all-out affair this year with the resort reaching its 35th anniversary, and with many associates marking their long history with the popular timeshare. The dinner and dance party, themed “rustic chic with a touch of coral”, recently took place in the picturesque environs of Tierra Del Sol and with the popular band tsunami further enlivening the evening.

Toasts to all associates were led by General Manager Peter van Grinsven and Director of Operations Sulaika Kelly, with special remarks provided by Executive Housekeeper Ingrid Todd, who also marks her 35th anniversary with the resort this year. Contributions by the resort’s associates has always been key to Playa Linda’s success with members and guests regularly commenting on the high level of customer care and service they encounter, often citing particular employees by name, along with their general comments about the beauty and central location of the Palm Beach-based resort.

Playa Linda is proud of all its hospitality professionals, and is especially grateful to employees whose entire career has been devoted to the resort. Playa Linda boasts

numerous 20-plus year employees, as well as several associates who have been with the resort for 30-plus years, among them such stand-outs as Alvero Gonzalez (32 years), Pearl Baptiste (31), Marlyn Tromp (30) and Adela Orman (30). During the celebration, the contributions of the resort’s new generation of hospitality professionals were not overlooked. While accolades were expressed for all associates, an Award of Excellence was presented to Rousanne de Wever who has demonstrated outstanding input and dedication in her role with Human Resources.

The mid-year party has been a staple in Playa Linda’s schedule of annual events for 16 years. Along with the year-end party, Playa Linda celebrates its exceptional associates by providing a mid-year thank you for year-round efforts. Hospitality has always been a hallmark at the Playa Linda, and the ongoing dedication to that high standard was particularly on display this year, with the resort able to deliver on its promise of unforgettable vacation experiences even during recent renovations, with an upgrade of the lobby completed this year, and its suites now undergoing a full transformation to further improve on the resort’s unique charm.

Continued on Page 14



Continued from Page 13

Also last Monday the Minister of Tourism, Public Health and sports Mr. Dangui Oduber was present at Playa Linda in connection with their 35 anniversary. The Minister had the honor to share some words of inspiration during this commemorative ceremony. This anniversary marks a historic day for the tourism in Aruba looking back at the past. Thanks to the people who had a vision from the beginning and believed in the importance of the tourism for our island as an important pillar to our economy. Thanks to them we can say that tourism is one of our biggest achievements for the island.

In the beginning of the 80's "The Playa Linda Development Company" took over the Basiruti Hotel, which was the first hotel build on Palm Beach, and you can noticed that only goodness could come out of it. With the help of a team of local individuals and great companies such as Mr. Raymond Maduro of "The sun development company", Dan Oduber who was the architect and Albo Aruba among others were crucial in the building of Playa Linda which is today one of the leaders in Timeshare Resorts here in Aruba and the region. Nowadays Playa Linda consists of 200 rooms with a high occupancy during the whole year. Thanks to the staff and management that are always ready to provide the best service and experience to their visitors which make them want to return back.

Minister Dangui Oduber also enlightened his thankfulness for the effort that the entire community of Playa Linda has given for the tourism of Aruba and wished them all the best of luck for the future. Mr. Raymond Maduro & Mr. Dan Oduber are considered pioneers of our tourism. □



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The honorees were:

Mr. Jeff & Mrs. Cindy Moore, residents of North Carolina have been visiting Aruba for 11 consecutive years and are staying at Tamarijn Beach Resort. Mr. George & Mrs. Elizabeth Hazen, residents of New Hampshire, also celebrated 10 years of consecutive visit and are staying at Divi All Inclusive.

Ms. Jasmine Maduro representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with members of Tamarijn & Divi All Inclusive and Mr. Francis Ridderstap presented the certificates and some presents to the Ambassadors and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



Today's Happening



A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba

Wednesday 01

Latin Dance Night

- Vivacious Latin Dance Show by Ritmo Cubano
- Starts at 8 PM
- Paseo Herencia Mall
- Facebook Paseo Herencia



Thursday 02

Amy Sorinio Live on the Beach

- Talented singer Amy Sorinio performs live on the beach during dinner time. Her repertoire includes some of the world most famous ballads and hits, but her classical and musical set has brought her the real fame
- From 7 PM – 10 PM
- Restaurant Hadicurari Aruba
- Facebook Hadicurari Aruba

Friday 03

Chaska - Indian Pop Up

- Inspired by the street bazaars of New Delhi, #RenAruba presents a night full of zestful seasonings expertly blended together to recreate the authentic traditional taste of Indian cuisine. Experience the art of Mehendi while sipping on Masala Chai. It's all about Discovering India.
- From 12 PM - 11 PM
- Ex - La Linda (Children's Dept.), mainstreet, Oranjestad
- Facebook Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino



Saturday 04

Stargazing in Aruba: Mars edition

- Grab your family, friends, or even a stranger and join the Space & Nature Aruba Foundation for our next 'Stargazing in Aruba' event, with focus on the red planet Mars. The foundation members will make their telescopes available so the

public can have a look at Mars, Jupiter and Saturn and maybe even the moon. Bring your own chair, food & beverage and enjoy a pleasant moment under the beautiful Aruban night sky.

- From 8 PM TILL 11 PM
- Arikok National Park
- Facebook Space and Nature Aruba Foundation

Sunday 05

Bright Summer Sessions 2018

- This year we CELEBRATE FIVE YEARS having a blast and making memories

Line up: Renzo M, DJ Spike, DJ Yeimy, Nutzbeatz, Honey-potFrom

- From 12 PM -8 PM
- Pelican Pier
- Facebook Pelican Pier Aruba



Monday 06

Joy of Aruba

- Joy of Aruba is performed at the Divi Divi Hotel by the Popcorn Dancers, one of Aruba's best Youth Dance Group. The performers will be presenting the most popular folkloric & modern music and dance of the island of Aruba. The Popcorn Dancers are determined to bring pleasure for your eyes, ears, heart & soul.

- From 9 PM till 10PM
- Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive
- Facebook Popcorn Club & Dancers Aruba



Tuesday 07

Aruba Ray's Comedy

- Comedians show with stars from America's Got talent, Tonight Show & Comedy Central
- From 8.30 PM
- Marriot Resort & Stellaris Casino
- Facebook Aruba Ray's Comedy

Aruba International Regatta 2018



ORANJESTAD — Sailors of all ages and all classes come together for the annual Aruba international regatta in August.

August 17, 18 and 19, the waters of Oranjestad harbor will be filled with competing sailboats during the tenth Aruba International Regatta. Sailing yachts as well as sunfish, beach cats, optimists and F11's will be competing for podium places. The main goal of the Aruba Regatta is to bring together the sailors of Aruba and neighboring islands to promote sailing.

The regatta village will be set up at Surfside Beach Bar, next to the airport, to ensure entertainment and

a spectacular view on the races. More than 40 sailing races will take place in the waters of Oranjestad Harbor on August 20 and 21 from 9 AM until 5 PM.

The Aruba International Regatta is not only an event for the participants in the races: the regatta village is a gathering point for people who want to enjoy a view of the races or have a relaxed afternoon on the beach in the regatta-mood.

In 2017, after two years of Silver Status, Aruba International Regatta has obtained the Gold status of Sailors for the Sea – Clean Regatta's. Join in the effort to reduce the Aruba Inter-



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national Regatta's footprint and stimulate sustainable development. Keep the beach, the sea and the air clean: Reduce, Re-use and Recycle! This year, the Caribbean director of Sailors for the Sea, Renata Goodridge, will join in the Aruba International Regatta celebration of 10 years sustainable regattas.

On Thursday, August 16, the regatta team in close collaboration with the Visit Aruba team and the University of Aruba will host a screening of the award winning documentary Chasing Coral, to raise awareness on ocean care and the human footprint. This screening will take place at the University of Aruba, Itrausquinplein 4, Oranjestad. For more information regarding the event visit their facebook page Aruba International Regatta. □



SPORTS



NBA strikes deal with MGM Resorts to provide data to bettors

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA and WNBA will now share official data with MGM Resorts International, a major win for the leagues as they prepare for the anticipated growth of sports betting across the country. The Las Vegas-based casino giant will pay the NBA for that data to use in determining outcomes of various bets. The NBA's stance has been that getting accurate stats to bettors is critical so players know what they're betting on and so casinos will know when to pay out, and MGM Resorts is the first casino to make an arrangement with the league for those numbers. Terms of the deal announced Tuesday were not disclosed, other than it's a multiyear arrangement.

"I know the value of data," MGM chairman and CEO James Murren said. "To be able to have the official NBA data for sports bettors around the world is very valuable. I was willing to, and I've paid for that."

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, who has been talking with Murren about such an arrangement for weeks, said the leagues believe they're getting adequately compensated for the data.

"It's a leap of faith on both sides," Silver said. "It's a deal moderate in length where I think we can both step back and assess as we go and see, 'Is it working? Is this deal fair? Are we providing the consumers with the right type of experience?'"

Continued on Page 23

DOUBLE DOWN

Red Sox walk off in 13th on Swihart's ground-rule double

Boston Red Sox's Blake Swihart celebrates after his walk-off RBI double off Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Luis Garcia during the 13th inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Monday, July 30, 2018. The Red Sox defeated the Phillies 2-1.

Associated Press
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Murray tests hip, comes back to edge McDonald in Washington

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Andy Murray let out one yell, then another, and violently pumped his right fist. Quite a reaction, considering this was merely a first-round victory over an inexperienced opponent who recently cracked the top 100 for the first time.

Still, this meant something to Murray.

It was a test of his surgically repaired hip, and he put aside a deficit and some real rust to win his first hard-court match in nearly 1½ years, coming back at the Citi Open to edge Mackenzie McDonald of the U.S. 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

"I enjoyed getting through that one — obviously, you see by the celebration," Murray said after a match that began a little past 10 p.m. Monday because of a rain delay, and ended at 12:45 a.m. Tuesday.

"It was great to get through that one," he said, "but in terms of the actual way that I went about the match and played the match, I wasn't that happy with it."

There were stretches when Murray looked very much like exactly what he is at the moment: a guy working his back from an operation in January. Particularly when he was failing to convert any of the five match points he held while serving for the win at 5-4 in the final set. He won on his seventh, though.

Murray is a former No. 1 who owns two Wimbledon trophies plus another from the U.S. Open. But he's ranked just 832nd now, on account of so much time away.

He sat out the second half of last season because of the bad hip, and then didn't compete this year

until June.

This match was only Murray's fourth of 2018. No. 5 will come in the second round of the Citi Open against Kyle Edmund, the man who overtook him as Britain's top-ranked man during Murray's injury absence.

"I'll certainly have to play better tennis," Murray said. He pulled out of Wimbledon on July 1 because, he said at the time, it "might be a bit too soon in the recovery process" for his hip to try to compete in best-of-five-set matches.

Against McDonald, he said, "the movements and stuff were fine. I chased balls down.

Obviously lasted pretty well."

Murray played just fine for the opening 10 minutes, breaking for a 2-0 lead. And then his game devolved for quite a lengthy spell into a ragged display, filled with six double-faults — two in a row to get broken to 2-1 — and shots that missed the mark.

The 23-year-old McDonald, a Californian who won NCAA singles and doubles titles at UCLA, made it to the fourth round at the All England Club this month, the first time he had made it that far at a major tournament.

That put him into the top 100, and he's now 80th.

He took six of seven games in one stretch and was actually one point from serving for the victory, holding a break point while already ahead by a set and 4-3 in the second.

Eventually, Murray righted himself, just before rain returned.

That forced the postponement until Tuesday of a match involving another three-time major champ: Stan Wawrinka, who was

scheduled to face American qualifier Donald Young.

In other matches, Noah Rubin got past Mikhail Youzhny 6-4, 6-4, Tim Smyczek beat Ricardas Berankis 7-6 (4), 6-2, and Malek Jaziri defeated Evgeny Donskoy 6-4, 6-1. Rubin now faces No. 2 seed John Isner, Jaziri plays No. 1 seed and defending champion Alexander Zverev, while Smyczek meets Zverev's older brother, No. 15 seed Mischa.

In women's results, two-time major champion Svetlana Kuznetsova beat Kristie Ahn 6-2, 6-1, Katie Boulter eliminated No. 5 seed Aleksandra Krunic 6-2, 6-0, and Andrea Petkovic defeated Jamie Loeb 6-1, 6-1. □



Andy Murray of Britain returns against Mackenzie McDonald during the first round of the Citi Open tennis tournament, Monday, July 30, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press

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Swihart wins it in 13th, then Red Sox get Kinsler from LAA

By The Associated Press
BOSTON (AP) — Blake Swihart doubled into the Red Sox bullpen to score Eduardo Nunez in the 13th inning and Boston beat the Philadelphia Phillies 2-1 on Monday night to move a season-high six games ahead of the New York Yankees in the AL East.

Boston announced after the game it had acquired Ian Kinsler from the Angels to fill in for injured second baseman Dustin Pedroia. Hector Velazquez (7-0) pitched a scoreless inning for the win and Austin Davis (1-1) took the loss after pitching a perfect 12th before allowing Nunez's leadoff single in the next inning. Luis Garcia, the 12th pitcher of the night, struck out Brock Holt but allowed Nunez to steal second. Swihart lined the first pitch he saw toward the gap and into the bullpen on one hop for his first career walk-off RBI.

The Red Sox have won 19 of their last 23 games and matched their biggest lead in the division of the season. At 75-33, they have the best record in baseball and are 42 games above .500 for the first time since the end of the 1946 season. They have won 19 of their last 21 interleague games.

MARINERS 2, ASTROS 0



Boston Red Sox third baseman Eduardo Nunez tries to bare hand the ball on a single by Philadelphia Phillies Asdrubal Cabrera during the sixth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Monday, July 30, 2018.

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — James Paxton excelled in his return from the disabled list, Nelson Cruz had a two-run double in the sixth inning and Seattle beat Houston. Astros starter Gerrit Cole (10-3) carried a no-hitter into the sixth, but Jean Segura ended it with a two-out infield single. Two batters later, Cruz lined his double down the left-field line. Cole was perfect through

four innings while locked in a duel with Paxton (9-4), who was making his first start since leaving a July 12 game in Anaheim because of lower back inflammation.

Cole retired the first 12 batters he faced, striking out six, until he hit Cruz with a pitch leading off the fifth. After Segura's single, Denard Span hit a clean single to right-center, and Cruz hit

a first-pitch slider inside third base. Segura scored easily, and the ball caromed off the protruding side wall, allowing Span to narrowly beat catcher Max Stassi's tag after a strong throw by left fielder Marwin Gonzalez.

Paxton was brilliant for Seattle, scattering three hits — two of them infield singles — over seven innings. He struck out eight, did not

walk a batter, and threw 59 of his 82 pitches for strikes.

TWINS 5, INDIANS 4

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Mitch Garver drove in the winning run with a one-out double in the ninth inning for Minnesota, capping a victory over Cleveland after the Twins traded away reliever Zach Duke and starter Lance Lynn.

Jose Ramirez hit two home runs to match Boston's J.D. Martinez for the most in the majors with 32, but the Indians couldn't hold a 3-2 lead. Miguel Sano, who hit an RBI single earlier and went 2-for-3 for his first hits in the majors since June 12, drew a walk to start the ninth against Neil Ramirez (0-1). Jake Cave advanced pinch-runner Ehire Adrianza with a sacrifice bunt, and Garver delivered the deep drive to left-center field to trigger an infield celebration from a weary Twins team.

Fernando Rodney (3-2) pitched a scoreless ninth, striking out Yonder Alonso with runners at second and third.

ATHLETICS 10, BLUE JAYS 1

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Edwin Jackson pitched scoreless ball into the sixth for his 100th career victory and Oakland rediscovered its offense to thump Toronto. □

Marlins trade Ziegler, Maybin but keep Realmuto

By STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — The last-place Miami Marlins kept All-Star catcher J.T. Realmuto on Tuesday but were sellers at the trade deadline, parting with right-handed reliever Brad Ziegler and outfielder Cameron Maybin, two well-traveled veterans who increased their market value by playing well lately. Ziegler returned to his former team, the Arizona Diamondbacks, who bolstered their bullpen for the pennant race and gave up Double-A reliever Tommy Eveld. Maybin went to another contender, the Seattle Mariners, for minor



In this July 26, 2018, file photo, Miami Marlins' Brad Ziegler delivers a pitch during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Washington Nationals, in Miami.

league infielder Bryson Brigman and international slot money.

There had been trade

speculation regarding Realmuto, but he remains with Miami and could become a cornerstone in

CEO Derek Jeter's rebuilding project. Also staying are outfielder Derek Dietrich, first baseman Justin Bour and closer Kyle Barraclough, all subjects of trade speculation in recent days. Veterans Ziegler and Maybin weren't part of Jeter's long-term plans.

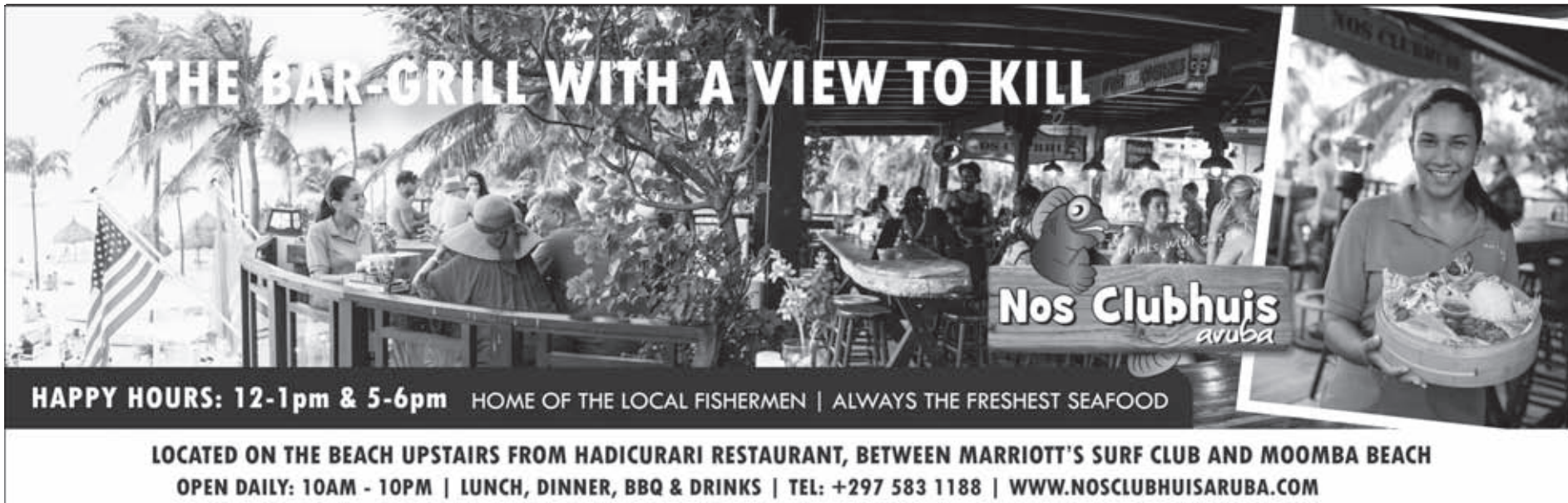
The 38-year-old Ziegler is 1-5 with a 3.98 ERA this season. The sidewinder's ERA was 7.88 on June 1, but since then he has allowed two runs in 28 innings. He's in the final year of a \$16 million, two-year contract, and the Diamondbacks will assume the remaining \$2.95 million of his salary this year.

The 31-year-old Maybin

is batting .251 with three homers and 20 RBIs in 99 games this season, but he's batting .329 with a .912 OPS since June 29. The Mariners are the seventh team for the 12-year veteran, who has a \$3.25 million, one-year contract.

Eveld, a 24-year-old right-hander, has a 1.11 ERA in 35 games in the minor leagues this season. He's a native of the Miami area, pitched at the University of South Florida and was a ninth-round draft pick in 2016.

The 23-year-old Brigman is batting .304 this year for Single-A Modesto with 15 stolen bases. He was a third-round pick in 2016. □



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Thames, Yelich lead Brewers to 5-2 win over Dodgers

By The Associated Press
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eric Thames hit a three-run home run and Christian Yelich extended his hitting streak to 14 games as Milwaukee overcame a brief power outage delay and beat Los Angeles. Manny Machado homered in the ninth inning in his first home game with the Dodgers. Machado went 1 for 3 with two walks, delivering his 26th home run to center field off reliever Corey Knebel. He struck out in the fourth inning with two runners in scoring position. Machado made his Dodgers debut July 20 at Milwaukee after he was acquired in a trade from the Baltimore Orioles. He scored the Dodgers' first run Monday on Max Muncy's triple in the third inning. Josh Hader (4-0) had three strikeouts over two scoreless innings of relief as the

Brewers won for the seventh time in 10 games to follow a seven-game losing streak that ended July 21. Kenta Maeda (7-6) lasted just 4 2/3 innings, throwing 102 pitches. He gave up four runs and seven hits with four strikeouts and three walks.

BRAVES 5, MARLINS 3

ATLANTA (AP) — Freddie Freeman hit a go-ahead homer in the third inning, Ronald Acuna Jr. also went deep and Atlanta beat Miami.

Brian Anderson's two-run homer off Julio Teheran (8-7) in the first gave Miami a lead Wei-Yin Chen (3-8) couldn't hold. The Braves pulled even in the second when Tyler Flowers walked, moved to third on Johan Camargo's double and scored on Ender Inciarte's fly ball. Camargo scored on Teheran's two-out single up the middle.

Freeman's homer, his 18th, in the third gave Atlanta the lead. Flowers walked and scored from first on another double to left by Camargo.

A.J. Minter pitched the ninth for his sixth save in six chances.

CARDINALS 5, ROCKIES 4, 10 INNINGS

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Marcell Ozuna hit his first career game-ending homer in the 10th inning, and St. Louis snapped Colorado's four-game winning streak.

Ozuna connected against Jake McGee (1-4), sending



Milwaukee Brewers' Eric Thames hits a three-run home run as Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Kenta Maeda (18), of Japan, watches along with catcher Yasmani Grandal, right, and home plate umpire Pat Hoberg during the third inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 30, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

a one-out drive deep to center for his 13th homer. The slugger also extended his homer streak to three straight games.

Dakota Hudson (1-0) got three outs for his first career win.

Colorado opened a 4-0 lead when Nolan Arenado hit his fifth career grand slam in the fifth inning off Daniel Ponce de Leon, who replaced Carlos Martinez when the right-hander departed with a mild shoulder strain with two outs.

RANGERS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 5

PHOENIX (AP) — Shin-Soo Choo homered twice and had four RBIs, helping Texas rally after a power outage delay to beat Arizona.

Choo hit a three-run homer off Robbie Ray in the fifth inning and added a solo shot against Matt Andriese (0-1) in the eighth for his sixth 20-homer season.

A thunderstorm outside Chase Field caused some of the lights to go out in the sixth and, after a 21-minute delay, pinch-hitter Willie Calhoun lined a run-scoring single to right to put the Rangers up 5-4.

Eddie Butler (2-1) got the final out in the sixth inning and Rougned Odor hit a solo homer off Andriese in the seventh for the go-ahead run.

GIANTS 5, PADRES 3, 12 INNINGS

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Gorkys Hernandez hit a go-ahead

home run leading off the 12th inning and San Francisco gave free-falling San Diego its straight loss.

The Padres had runners on first and third with one out in the 11th and failed to score. Instead, they dropped to 2-8 since the All-Star break and lost for the 13th time in 15 games. San Diego is 5-19 in July.

Will Smith (1-1) came on with runners on second and third and two outs in the 11th and struck out Carlos Asuaje. He then struck out the side in the 12th.

Hernandez homered to left on a 1-2 pitch from Matt Strahm (2-3), his 13th. The Giants got another run on Buster Posey's fielder's choice blooper. □



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MLS eager to show off Atlanta success story at All-Star Game

By PAUL NEWBERRY

ATLANTA (AP) — The MLS All-Star Game is more than the league showing off its best players against Italian powerhouse Juventus. It's a chance to flaunt one of its biggest success stories.

The A-T-L.

Atlanta United has shattered just about every MLS attendance record since joining the league in 2017, which made it a natural choice to host the All-Star Game at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Another mark could fall in Wednesday night's match, expected to lure upwards of 70,000 fans to this technological marvel of a stadium.

"That's why the game is here," said United defender Michael Parkhurst, one of five players from league-leading Atlanta picked for the MLS team. "It's to showcase the city itself, the stadium, the atmosphere that we create here. It's special."

Indeed, there's nothing unusual about drawing such a mammoth soccer crowd in Atlanta.

In its debut season, United shattered the league record by averaging 48,200 per game — more than doubling all but three other teams in MLS. The club is projected to go even higher this season, averaging nearly 52,000 through its first dozen home matches.

The top five individual game crowds in MLS history have all been in Atlanta,



which has eclipsed 70,000 for every regular-season match in which the upper deck has been open. The target to beat for an All-Star Game is 70,728, which was the record turnout for the 2010 match at Houston's NFL stadium.

If the weather forecast holds — there was a strong chance of thunderstorms — the camera lens-resembling roof will be closed to ensure a comfortable setting for both the players and the big crowd.

Too bad.

The complex structure only recently began operating properly, allowing it to open or close in less than 10 minutes.

Every other aspect of the \$1.5 billion stadium has drawn rave reviews, setting it up to be one of the

leading venues for the 2026 World Cup that will be largely hosted by the United States. The winning bid, which also includes Mexico and Canada, calls for six games to be held in Atlanta — including a semifinal. The stadium has already developed quite a reputation in MLS, with its chanting, flag-waving fans showing off their passion while giving United a huge home-field edge.

"It's surprising," New York Red Bulls forward Bradley Wright-Phillips said before a workout Tuesday at the stadium. "I heard a lot of talk before they came into the league about how it was going to be. I wasn't sure, but playing here and watching them on TV, the support these players have is amazing."

Since the current All-Star Game format was adopted in 2005, pitting a team of MLS stars against a prominent club from Europe, the American-based league holds a 7-6 edge.

Of course, this game means a lot more to MLS than it does to the opponent.

Juventus, which is riding a streak of seven straight titles in Serie A, is merely tuning up for a league season than begins in less than two weeks. The Italian club already played two exhibitions in the U.S. as part of the International Champions Cup — beating Germany's Bayern Munich and Portugal's Benfica — and has one more friendly Saturday against Real Madrid before returning to Europe. Juventus didn't bring along five-time FIFA Player of the

Year Cristiano Ronaldo, acquired from Real Madrid a few weeks ago in a record transfer deal for a player older than 30.

Still recovering from the World Cup, Ronaldo remained in Italy to train, along with new teammates Gonzalo Higuain, Juan Cuadrado, Mario Mandzukic and Paulo Dybala.

Manager Massimiliano Allegri is confident that his squad is ready to make another title run in Serie A.

"There isn't much to do," he said through a translator. "We have the defenders. We have the midfielders. It's just a matter of deciding who are the two or three in front who are basically going to put the ball in the goal."

The MLS team also will be missing one of its top players — LA Galaxy star Zlatan Ibrahimovic, who ranks second in the league with 15 goals.

The 36-year-old Swede chose to not to make the cross-country trip to Atlanta after playing three league matches over a nine-day span, saying he was more focused on leading his streaking team to the playoffs. Under league rules, he'll also have to skip the Galaxy's next match against Colorado on Saturday.

Commissioner Don Garber told reporters he was "disappointed" that Ibrahimovic would skip "the most important special event that the league has." □

Vikings, Diggs reach deal on 5-year extension

By DAVE CAMPBELL

AP Pro Football Writer

EAGAN, Minn. (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings locked up another core player with a long-term contract Tuesday, signing wide receiver Stefon Diggs to a five-year extension and moving the star of the "Minneapolis Miracle" pass into the NFL's top 10 highest-paid players at his position.

Diggs has yet to post a 1,000-yard or 100-catch season, but his ability was on full display when he

turned a sideline catch into a 61-yard touchdown as time ran out to lift the Vikings to victory over New Orleans in last season's playoffs. Selected in the fifth round out of Maryland in 2015, Diggs has been one of the biggest steals of that draft.

He formed a prolific tandem with Adam Thielen last year, helping Case Keenum stabilize the passing game after Sam Bradford was injured.

Now the Vikings have a

new quarterback in Kirk Cousins, who was elated by the news that Diggs is under contract through 2023.

"What I most like is he loves football and loves to come and work, because as a quarterback it can be miserable if you're out here with someone who is here to just get a paycheck and leave," Cousins said. "He wants to work."

The Vikings offense was at the new practice facility on Monday night past 9 p.m.

"I've been a part of some locker rooms where by 9 o'clock, some of your guys are sleeping in the back row, not taking notes, not paying attention. They're basically checked out, texting or whatever," Cousins said. "That's not him. That's not these guys."

The new deal is valued at \$72 million plus an additional \$9 million in possible incentives, according to a person with knowledge of the contract who spoke to The Associated Press on

condition of anonymity because the details have not been released publicly. Diggs, who will play the final season of his rookie deal for the original base salary of slightly more than \$1.9 million, received a \$15 million signing bonus.

Since Cousins signed his fully guaranteed \$84 million contract in March, the Vikings have signed linebacker Eric Kendricks, defensive end Danielle Hunter and now Diggs to multi-year deals. □

Australian golfer Lyle, 36, to have palliative care at home

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— Australian golfer Jarrod Lyle has opted not to seek further treatment in his long fight against leukemia and will receive palliative care at home, his family announced late Tuesday.

The 36-year-old Lyle, who won twice on the Nationwide Tour in 2008, was first diagnosed with leukemia as a teenager and suffered recurrences of the disease in 2012 and 2017.

In a post on Lyle's Facebook page, his wife Briony wrote that Lyle had "reached his limit" and that he and his doctors had agreed that a "positive outcome" was no longer achievable.

"My heart breaks as I type this message," reads the post, which has a photo of Lyle hugging one of his daughters. "Earlier today (Tuesday) Jarrod made the decision to stop active treatment and begin palliative care. He has given everything that he's got to give, and his poor body cannot take anymore."

"We'll be taking him closer to home in the next couple



In this April 23, 2015 file photo, Jarrod Lyle, of Australia, reacts after missing a putt on the 17th hole during the first round of the Zurich Classic PGA golf tournament in Avondale, La.

Associated Press

of days so he can finally leave the hospital.

"There is simply not enough time to get this message out to everyone individually, so for some of our really close friends and family I cannot apologize

enough for breaking the news in this way ... Jarrod knows he is loved, and the thousands of prayers and well wishes that have been sent his way have kept him going through some incredibly tough times. But

he has reached his limit, and the docs have finally agreed that they can no longer strive for a positive outcome."

She added: "My focus as of today is on our girls and doing whatever I can

to get them through the challenges ahead. Jarrod will be closer to them very soon, and will spend as much time as he can with them.

"When it's appropriate, I will post details of a memorial service. In the meantime we ask that you respect our privacy at this difficult time."

Lyle underwent a bone marrow transplant last December following a recurrence of acute myeloid leukemia.

Lyle twice beat acute myeloid leukemia, in 1998 and 2012, and was able to return to play professional golf. He made an emotional comeback to the golf course during the 2013 Australian Masters in Melbourne before using a medical exemption to play on the U.S. PGA Tour in 2015. He played four seasons on the U.S. tour, where he earned \$1.875 million in 121 tournaments.

Lyle returned to Australia permanently to be with Briony and daughters Lusi and Jemma. □

NBA BETTORS

Continued from Page 18

It's the first such deal between a major U.S. sports league and a casino.

"We understood the value of our marks, of official designations," Silver said. "But I think then in terms of the data we're providing, we have a sense of the magnitude of the current business and a sense of where things may go over the next few years. And I'd say we generally tried to approximate in a sense to come up with what we thought was fair compensation."

How MGM will get that data remains unclear.

NBA stat data is distributed globally by Sportradar, which sends it to media outlets, broadcasters and betting outlets outside the U.S. — but not inside this country, at least for now. With the start of preseason games still about two months away, there's plenty of time for those matters to get worked out.

"What this relationship en-

tails is access to official data for the many casinos that MGM operates," Silver said. "It's the use of the NBA's intellectual property and as we've discussed before we're very focused on integrity provisions to protect our fans, to protect those who choose to engage and bet on the NBA." MGM will be an official casino partner for the league, but will not have exclusive rights to the data. The NBA still can, and likely will, try to make deals with other casinos who will be offering sports betting in various states or through mobile apps.

The deal also won't stop other casino companies from offering wagers on NBA games, including prop bets that rely on results other than the final score.

MGM and other casino operators are moving aggressively to be able to capitalize on the U.S. sports betting market, which is expanding after the Supreme Court ruled in May that

states could take sports bets if they wanted. MGM has made three significant deals this week to expand its sports betting operations. The company, which is scheduled to report second quarter earnings Thursday, announced separate agreements with a European bookmaker and a U.S.-based regional casino operator that will give it technological expertise and market access in several states where it doesn't already operate casino-resorts. The joint venture with the United Kingdom-based owner of Ladbrokes, GVC Holdings, will lead to the creation of a sports betting and online gambling platform in the U.S. with a mobile app and website featuring odds and highlights. Murren has previously expressed support for the leagues benefitting from the newly created market, but for the "integrity fee" as pushed by Silver and the NBA as well as other leagues. "I'm not a



In this Feb. 17, 2018, file photo, NBA commissioner Adam Silver speaks to the media during All-Star basketball festivities in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

fan of that name, and I don't have any idea what the economic proposition would be, but in so many cases there are opportunities, and this is on a going forth basis," he told The Associated Press hours after the Supreme Court issued its ruling in May. The deal announced Tuesday also calls for cross-promotion: MGM will be advertised on NBA assets like NBA TV, NBA.

com, the NBA App and social media platforms. In turn, MGM will promote the NBA on its betting platforms. The NBA and MGM have been in business together before now. MGM owns the WNBA's Las Vegas Aces, who play inside the Mandalay Bay casino, and is also a presenter of the NBA Summer League. "This is a whole new world for us," Silver said. □



By: Dr Carlos Viana

People feel better whether they are soaking in our beautiful Caribbean sea. Taking time off from our daily responsibilities to relax and play in nature revitalizes our spirit. Yet, the increase in vitamin D from sunshine and iodine from the sea is benefiting our physical health as well.

Iodine is a trace element, essential for good health. Iodine is naturally present in seawater as well as many marine fish and plants. It is found naturally in some foods and is also added to salt that is labeled as "iodized". For many years I assumed those of us who live in the tropics would have sufficient levels of iodine in our bodies. After all, we swim in the ocean regularly and our diet includes lots of fish, fruits and vegetables, which should contain iodine from the soil.

Urinary iodine levels in the US today are about half what they were in the 1970s. Since our current Island diet, like most modern diets, includes imported, conventionally grown food, we islanders, like most people are now iodine deficient. My assumptions about our iodine levels were wrong.

In order not to assume and to confirm levels, I started testing our patient iodine levels. To do this, we have you collect some urine in the morning and evening. Since iodine levels are especially important for the thyroid, we send the sample to a lab specializing in Hormones. Symptoms and potential risk for iodine deficiency

include: Depression, Infertility, Feeling cold all the time or cold hands and feet, Sleep disturbances, Elevated cholesterol, Aches and pains, Dry skin, Fatigue, Heart palpitations, Constipation, Anxiety, Foggy thinking, Low libido, Thinning hair, Brittle nails, Headaches, Weight gain with an inability to lose weight, and menstrual irregularities, to name a few symptoms. These symptoms also appear in people with a slow Thyroid, hypothyroidism. Your thyroid gland secretes iodine-rich hormones thyroxine and triiodothyronine, which regulate your metabolism rate; but its effects are felt all over the body.

Hypothyroidism disproportionately affects women at a rate of about 9 to 1 in the US. The reason for this is that the female hormone estrogen inhibits the absorption of iodine. Women who are pregnant or nursing need about 50% more iodine to provide sufficient iodine for their baby.

Iodine has a nutritional relationship with selenium. Medical researchers have found that men with the highest levels of selenium had a 52% reduced risk of diabetes, compared to those with the lowest selenium levels. Laboratory studies indicate the potentially beneficial role of selenium in the management of breast cancer. It actually could be that selenium is stimulating the iodine in the breast.

The breast strongly and actively concentrates iodine into breast-milk for the benefit of the developing infant, and may develop lumpy swelling, sometimes manifesting as fibrocystic breast disease, when iodine level are low. Studies indicate that iodine deficiency can lead to breast problems and increased incidence of malignancy, while iodine treatment can reverse breast lumps. Laboratory evidences demonstrate that the effect of iodine on breast cancer is in part independent of thyroid function and that iodine inhibits cancer promotion through modulation of the estrogen pathway. Natural medicine physicians have recommended women with breast cancer or uncomfortable lumps in the breast, fibrocystic breast disease paint their breast with iodine.

Eating foods that rob iodine, such as cabbage, cassava, turnips, broccoli, cauliflower, brussels sprouts mustard greens, millet and pine nut contribute to low iodine levels. I think the worse is gluten found in wheat. Gluten sensitivity has

been found to go hand-in-hand with autoimmune disorders such as type 1 diabetes, Addison's disease, Sjögren's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, and autoimmune thyroid disease. Kelp, a type of seaweed is one of the best food sources of iodine.

The third problem effecting your iodine levels and hypothyroidism is an amino acid deficiency. As the building blocks of every structure of your body, amino acids have an influence on the function of organs, glands, tendons and arteries. They are furthermore essential for healing wounds and repairing tissue, especially in the muscles, bones, skin and hair as well as for the removal of all kinds of waste deposits produced in connection with the metabolism. The conversion of thyroid hormones T3 and T4 involves thyroid specific amino acids, found predominantly but not exclusively in the thyroid tissue.

Get The Point! Feeling any of the symptoms listed above could indicate a problem with thyroid and problems of your body to utilize iodine. The first step is to test your body's iodine status. Our clinic offers iodine, full hormone panel and amino acid testing. If results show you are deficient in iodine, we need like a detective, start eliminating and identifying what is blocking your body's ability to use iodine and if appropriate, add the correct iodine supplementation. □

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: **VIANA HEALING CENTER**, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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US stocks rise as health care and industrial companies climb

By MARLEY JAY

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks are rising Tuesday after a three-day losing streak. Industrial and health care companies are making some of the largest gains following strong second-quarter reports. Bloomberg News reported that the U.S. and China are trying to restart trade talks. The Commerce Department said consumer spending kept growing in June and a key measurement of inflation stayed near the Federal Reserve's target of 2 percent.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index rose 16 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,818 as of 11:53 a.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 132 points, or 0.5 percent, to 25,439. The Nasdaq composite added 53 points, or 0.7 percent, to 7,683. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks jumped 16 points, or 1 percent, to 1,669.

INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH: Caterpillar recovered after a slump on Monday. The construction equipment maker rose 2 percent to \$142.60 and aerospace company Boeing picked up 1.7 percent to \$356.99. 3M climbed 2.8 percent to \$210.79 and Deere surged 4.1 percent to \$143.87.

EARNINGS: Genetic testing tools maker Illumina raised its forecasts after a strong second quarter and its stock climbed 10.4 percent to \$313.90. Pfizer rose



This June 25, 2018 file photo shows the New York Stock Exchange in New York.

2.9 percent to \$39.71 after the biggest U.S. drugmaker topped analyst projections and also raised its forecasts for the year.

Strong earnings also helped real estate companies. Apartment building owner AvalonBay jumped 3.5 percent to \$178.11 and wireless infrastructure company American Tower gained 4.8 percent to \$149.60. Elsewhere, cable company Charter Communications advanced 5.6 percent to \$310.26 after its quarterly profit surpassed analysts' estimates.

High-powered laser maker IPG Photonics nosedived 26.9 percent to \$163.89 after it said demand from Europe and China worsened during the second quarter.

The company's revenue forecast for the current quarter fell far short of Wall Street's estimates.

TECH COMEBACK: Technology stocks edged higher after three days of sharp losses. Chip equipment maker KLA-Tencor soared 11 percent to \$118.02 after it topped Wall Street expectations in the second quarter. Chipmaker Qualcomm gained 3.4 percent to \$64.18 as it started to buy back stock from shareholders. Microsoft added 0.9 percent to \$106.32. Apple, which will report its quarterly results after the close of trading, added 0.1 percent to \$190.08.

The technology index of the S&P 500 fell 5.3 percent over the past three days.

That's the worst decline in three months. It's up 0.5 percent Tuesday.

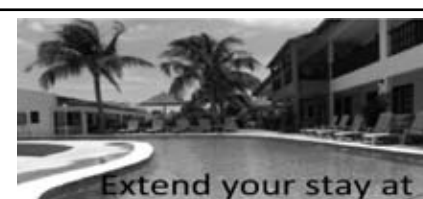
US ECONOMY: The Commerce Department said consumer spending grew another 0.4 percent in June, and a key measurement of inflation is up 2.2 percent over the last year. For the last four months, in-

flation has equaled or been slightly higher than the Federal Reserve's target of 2 percent. The Fed is meeting Tuesday and Wednesday but isn't expected to raise interest rates again until later this year.

The Labor Department said wages and benefits for U.S. workers continued to rise, but they grew at a slightly slower pace in the second quarter. That's a sign that a tight labor market has yet to accelerate income gains.

BOJ MEETING: In a widely watched statement, the Bank of Japan kept its monetary policy steady, as expected. It maintained its target for the 10-year government bond yield at around zero percent and that for short-term interest rates at minus 0.1 percent. Recent strength in the economy had raised expectations that the central bank may need to consider further tempering its massive purchases of government bonds and other assets. □

Associated Press



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Nintendo reports jump in earnings thanks to Switch

By YOUKYUNG LEE

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— Nintendo Co. said Tuesday that its quarterly profit jumped 44 percent in the fiscal first quarter thanks to increased sales of Nintendo Switch game titles.

The Japanese maker of Super Mario and Pokemon games said its net profit totaled 30.6 billion yen (\$274.9 million) during the April-June period, compared with 21.3 billion yen

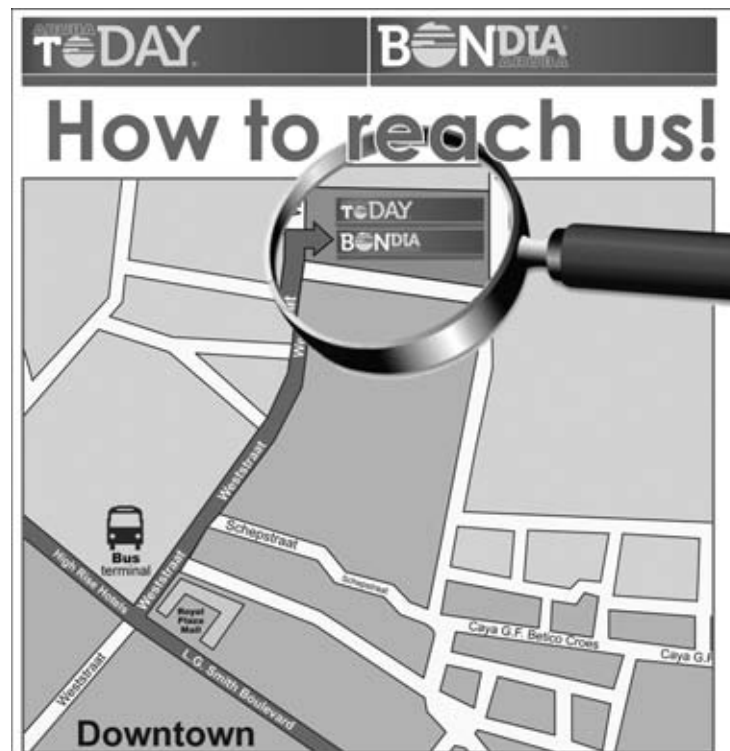
a year earlier.

Quarterly sales rose 9 percent to 168.2 billion yen (\$1.5 billion) over a year earlier while operating profit surged 88 percent to 30.5 billion yen (\$274 million).

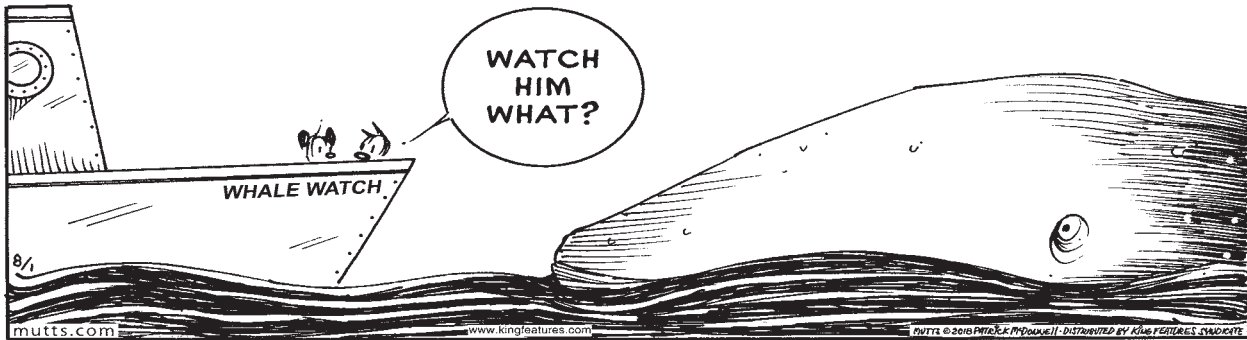
Kyoto-based Nintendo credited new game titles for profit growth. One of the new titles, Donkey Kong Country: Tropical Freeze, has sold 1.4 million units worldwide since May.

The Switch is a hybrid game machine that works both as a console and a tablet.

Hardware sales of Nintendo Switch also trended upward since the video game expo E3 was held in the U.S. and software sales are in good shape with upcoming launches of key titles, the company said. Switch's popularity helped offset declines in hardware and software sales of Nintendo 3DS. □



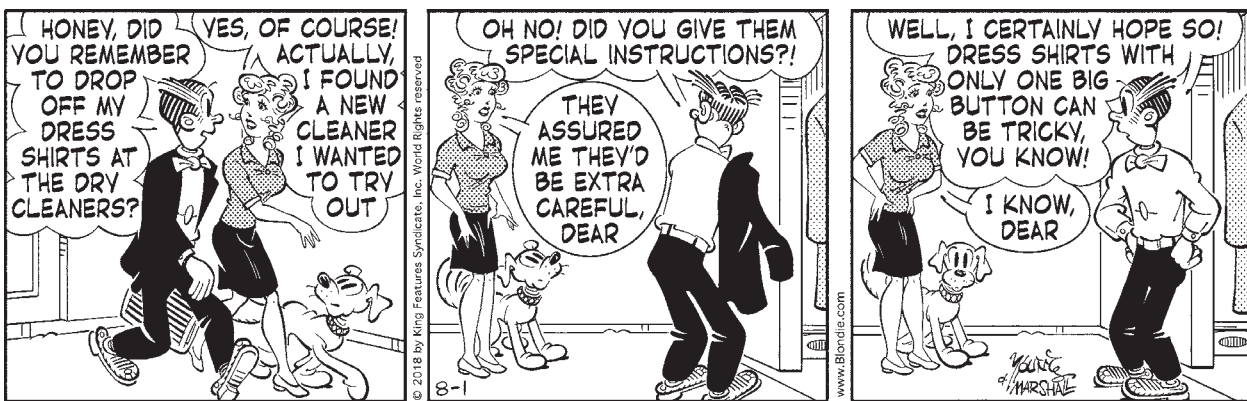
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	2	9				7	1	
4			5		9			8
1			6					9
7			2					4
	5	4				6	8	
6			4					1
8			9					7
3			7		8			2
	7	2				8	4	

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

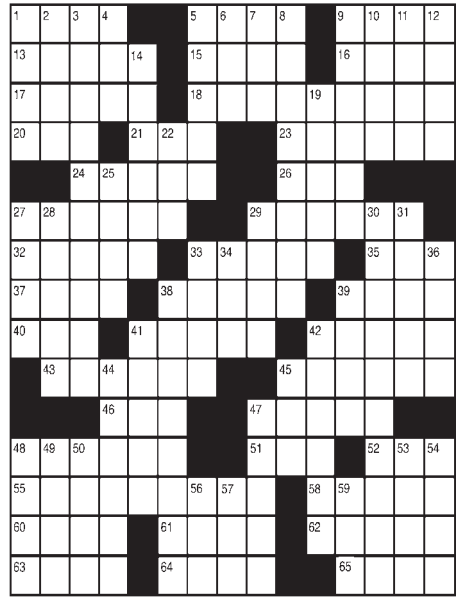
3	2	6	8	1	4	9	5	7
4	1	7	6	5	9	3	8	2
8	5	9	3	7	2	1	4	6
5	7	3	1	2	6	8	9	4
9	6	8	7	4	5	2	1	3
2	4	1	9	8	3	7	6	5
7	9	4	2	6	1	5	3	8
1	8	5	4	3	7	6	2	9
6	3	2	5	9	8	4	7	1

ACROSS

- 1 Sage or thyme
- 5 "Heidi" setting
- 9 Elegant poems
- 13 Body of water
- 15 ___ as a pin
- 16 Weathercock
- 17 Complain childishly
- 18 Due ___; reasonable effort
- 20 Building site
- 21 Deli loaf
- 23 Used foul language
- 24 Santa's helpers
- 26 Baby goat
- 27 Window covering
- 29 Casual farewell
- 32 Bank offerings
- 33 Holler
- 35 ___ shoestring; with little money
- 37 Goes on stage
- 38 ___ Ste. Marie
- 39 Cease
- 40 Foot digit
- 41 New England state
- 42 ___ in; join the conversation
- 43 Go higher
- 45 Hollandaise & others
- 46 St. Joan of ___
- 47 One's strong point
- 48 ___ de corps; camaraderie
- 51 ___ fog; confused
- 52 Zambia's continent: abbr.
- 55 Abundant, as a harvest
- 58 Fictional tale
- 60 Unadorned
- 61 Trial run
- 62 Actress Pompeo
- 63 Nimble
- 64 Slangy reply
- 65 Linear measures

DOWN

- 1 Wolf's cry
- 2 Reverberate



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/1/18

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

TRY	ASHES	SOLE
HOOK	SHOAL	ADAY
YOGI	WORSE	LOSE
FASCINATE	ARTS	
SORE	PHD	
SERIAL	PLEASANT	
TAINT	HAIRY	SEW
RUNG	QUIPS	HIRE
ADS	FUELS	SUAVE
PEERLESS	SONNET	
HOE	GANG	
UGLY	NECESSARY	
FLAT	BALES	REAP
OUCH	EROSE	YELL
SEEM	ENDED	KEY

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8/1/18

- 36 Copies
- 38 Holliness
- 39 Close
- 41 Deserve; earn
- 42 Wine container
- 44 Actor Art
- 45 Arlo, to Woody
- 47 Loathsome dirt
- 48 Diminishes
- 49 Cleansing bar
- 50 Contented sound
- 53 Run away
- 54 Torn in two
- 56 Charge
- 57 Neighbor of Mexico: abbr.
- 59 Sitcom alien

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DNA to X-ray: Military has variety of tools to ID remains

By **MALCOLM RITTER**

AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. military remains released by North Korea on Friday will be sent to a military lab in Hawaii, where they'll enter a system that routinely identifies service members from decades-old conflicts. Identifications depend on combining multiple lines of evidence, and they can take time: Even after decades, some cases remain unresolved.

Dog tags found with the remains can help, and even scraps of clothing can be traced to the material used in uniforms. Teeth can be matched with dental records. Bones can be used to estimate height. And the distinctive shape of a clavicle bone can be matched to records of X-rays taken decades ago to look for tuberculosis, said Charles Prichard, a spokesman for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. If a DNA analysis is called for, samples are sent to a military DNA lab at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. Tiny samples of bone or teeth, no bigger than the amount of bone in the last joint of the pinkie finger, are enough to yield usable DNA, said Timothy McMahon, who oversees the Dover lab as director of Defense Department DNA Operations. Each sample is sanded to remove surface contamination, ground to the consistency of baby powder, and then treated with a substance that dissolves the bone and leaves the DNA for analysis. That DNA is then compared with genetic samples from living people who are related to the missing.

The military has been collecting DNA from such fam-



A U.N. honor guard carries a casket containing remains believed to be from American servicemen killed during the 1950-53 Korean War after arriving from North Korea, at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, Friday, July 27, 2018.

ily members since 1992, and has reached the relatives of 92 percent of the 8,100 service members who were listed as missing at the end of the Korean War, McMahon said.

The goal is to find bits of DNA in common between the known relatives and the unidentified remains, suggesting both belong to a particular lineage. One analysis develops a profile that combines what's found at 23 spots in the DNA, for example.

By analyzing different kinds of DNA, lab scientists can look for markers passed down by generations of women, or of men, or of both sexes. The lab once linked remains to a great-great-great-grand-niece who initially had no idea she was related to the missing service member, McMahon said.

Once a link is made, the lab estimates how strongly it suggests the remains belong to a particular person, and send the results back

to Hawaii. There, it's combined with the other lines of evidence.

"We're just one spoke in a wheel to make the identification," McMahon said. "We all work together."

Since Oct. 1, the Hawaii lab has identified 25 service members from the Korean War, part of the 119 identifications made overall in that time period, Prichard said. For the 12 months before that, 42 sets of remains from the Korean War were accounted for, which includes briefing the relatives

in person, out of 183 overall. The agency identifies remains from not only the Korean War, but also World War II through the first Gulf War in Iraq.

How long does it take? If a clavicle bone can be matched to an X-ray, it might be done in just three days, Prichard said. But in other cases, it can take decades. He noted some remains recovered from North Korea from 1990 to 2005 are still awaiting identification.

For Jan Curran, of Gilbert,

Arizona, the new remains turned over by North Korea have stirred hope.

Curran has no memory of her father, naval aviator Lt. Charles Garrison, who was shot down over Korea and captured in May 1951. He died in captivity, and no remains have been identified.

Curran, 70, has spent decades working to give him a proper burial. She's attended scores of meetings for families of those missing in action in Korea. She was the driving force in the late 1990s in getting several of her family members — including her sister, an aunt, an uncle and cousins — to join her in giving DNA samples to the military in an effort to identify her father's remains, should they be found. Will their long wait now come to an end?

"We know it's a small chance, but we can't help but hope," she said, her voice breaking with emotion. "It would be wonderful. It's too much to hope for."

"It's amazing, after all these years, how much it can still hurt not to have him."

Margery Beck in Omaha, Nebraska, contributed to this report.

Follow Malcolm Ritter at @MalcolmRitter. □

Associated Press

Scientists: Surprisingly small 'dead zone' off Louisiana

By **JANET McCONAUGHEY**

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — This year's Gulf of Mexico "dead zone" is surprisingly small, but the oxygen-depleted water rose higher toward the surface than usual, scientists said Tuesday.

Dead zones are areas in which water at and above the sea floor holds too little oxygen to support marine life. This dead zone is the fourth-smallest ever measured in Louisiana, and is only about 40 percent the average size predicted earlier this year based on nitrogen and other nutrients flowing down the Mis-

sissippi river.

"Although the area is small this year, we should not think that the low-oxygen problem in the Gulf of Mexico is solved. We are not close to the goal size for this hypoxic area," said lead scientist Nancy Rabalais of Louisiana State University and the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

The dead zone covers about 2,720 square miles (7,040 square kilometers), rising in some areas as much as three-quarters of the way to the surface, she said. The sea-floor area is about 50 percent larger than the goal set by the

Mississippi River Nutrient/Hypoxia Task Force, she said.

Each year's oxygen depletion begins as snowmelt, and followed by spring rains pouring from the Mississippi River into the gulf. The newly deposited fresh water is lighter than salt water, causing two layers to develop.

Nitrogen and other nutrients in the fresh water feed a growth spurt of algae and microorganisms at the top. The microorganisms die and fall to the bottom, where their decay consumes oxygen from the bottom up. □

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Film inclusion report says rhetoric doesn't equal results

By LINDSEY BAHR

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Despite enthusiastic discourse around diversity in film, a report from the University of Southern California's Annenberg Inclusion Initiative released Tuesday says when it comes to the numbers, little has changed. The most popular movies are still largely the domain of white, straight, able-bodied men, both in front of the camera and behind. The percentage of female characters with speaking parts in the top 100 films has remained largely unchanged at or around 30 percent over the past decade, according to the report released Tuesday. And in survey of the top 100 films of 2017, a year in which the top three were the female-led "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," "Beauty and the Beast" and "Wonder Woman," only 33 featured women in a lead or co-lead. Four of those were from an underrepresented group, and five were over the age of 45. Women of color are still among the most margin-



This image released by Lucasfilm shows Daisy Ridley as Rey in "Star Wars: The Last Jedi."

Associated Press

alized, which the report calls an epidemic of invisibility. In 2017, 64 of the top 100 films did not include a single Latina character, 65 were missing Asian females, and 43 were devoid of any black female characters. 78 films were without a female character with a disability and 94 absent of an LGBT female. The report calls it an epidemic of invisibility.

"It was an unprecedented year where you had the top spots at the domestic box office driven by female leads, and yet we find

ourselves in another year where almost nothing has changed," said Dr. Stacy L. Smith, Founding Director of the Annenberg Inclusion Initiative. "In the aggregate, Hollywood isn't embracing any solution. It's business as usual or embracing the status quo as usual."

The Annenberg Inclusion Initiative has been tracking and examining the top 100 films every year since 2007 leading to a database of 1,100 films and 48,757 characters.

And while the Time's Up and #MeToo movements have

affected every level of the entertainment industry over the past nine months, any statistically significant impact will likely not be seen on screen for another year or more.

"As Time's Up focuses on safety, equity and dignity, we need to be looking to 2019 and 2020 for the major changes where Time's Up exerts its influence and we see a shift in hiring practices for the first time," Smith said. "Until hiring changes, these numbers will not move."

The report suggests solutions like the "just add five"

concept, which advocates for adding five speaking roles for women in every script to achieve gender equity by 2020, or the inclusion rider, which is a contract addendum requiring studios to hire a diverse crew and cast for a project. Frances McDormand popularized the term by mentioning it in her Oscars acceptance speech.

Although many in the industry have embraced the concept of inclusion riders, like Michael B. Jordan, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck and Paul Feig and others who run production companies, some have criticized the idea saying it is potentially illegal. Smith says that the critics misunderstand the concept and should speak to employment attorneys to understand how to execute it.

"The spirit of the inclusion rider was to get people to realize that the world we see on screen is imbalanced and there are ways to address this," Smith said. "The solution is to hire differently. An inclusion rider isn't needed to do that." □

Review: On 'Vicious,' Halestorm rides on elevated thrash-pop

By PABLO ARAUZ PENA

Associated Press

Halestorm, "Vicious" (Atlantic)

"Vicious" comes five years after Halestorm's Grammy-winning hit "Love Bites (So Do I)" became the group's standing claim to mainstream fame. Produced by Nick Raskulinecz, who has worked with bands like Foo Fighters and Alice in Chains, "Vicious" is a jump in sonic variety since the band's third full-length album, "Into the Wild Life," topped the rock charts in 2015.

The new album stays true to the band's long-standing creative elements. The cryptic but assertive attitude of Lzzy Hale's diverse vocal range and raunchy guitar riffs team up well with her brother Arejay's locomotive percussion, Joe Hottinger's sharp gui-



This cover image released by Atlantic Records shows "Vicious," the latest release by Halestorm.

Associated Press

tar work and Josh Smith's thumping bass walks.

On "Vicious," the group takes their raw and abra-

sive guitar sound up a notch with more polished, virtuoso axe-playing.

It's also worth noting that

Lzzy's vocals really dazzle on this one. The front-woman's ferocity seems to embody the vocal stylings of metal legends like Ronnie James Dio and Lemmy from Motorhead only with her truly distinct Halestorm touch.

The four-piece starts it out even-handed by summoning the forces of nature in "Black Vultures," painting a sonic picture of flying scavengers circling the sky. The song rotates between its flashy modes of thrash to more melodic sensibilities while Lzzy unabashedly wails words of survival.

"Uncomfortable" may be one of the album's strongest tracks. The song starts out as a shredder with a rhythm that chugs behind chunky guitar riffs before Lzzy spits her spiel like fire following an illuminated bridge that adds nuance

to a catchy chorus. It's an easy head-banger that doesn't lose intensity even during its more pop-heavy parts.

But the band also knows how to change a pace when it comes down to it.

"Conflicted" is an ode to indecision, set by a grinding mood in a slower tempo while emphasizing the cleaner, rootsy-rock guitars. Lzzy gets outwardly sensual on "Do Not Disturb," while the final track, "The Silence," ends the album on an audibly lighter note as an acoustic ballad to a love lost. While "Vicious" does contain a share of fillers, it doesn't fall short of what a solid metal album should do — beat the heck out of traditional musical niceties with powerful sonic blasts and metaphorical fists of tough, lightning-fast rock 'n' roll. □

50 years on, McDonald's and fast-food evolve around Big Mac

By CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — McDonald's is fighting to hold onto customers as the Big Mac turns 50, but it isn't changing the makings of its most famous burger.

The company is celebrating the 1968 national launch of the double-decker sandwich whose ingredients of "two all-beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions and a sesame seed bun" were seared into American memories by a TV jingle. But the milestone comes as the company reduces its number of U.S. stores. McDonald's said Thursday that customers are visiting less often. Other trendy burger options are reaching into the heartland.

The "Golden Arches" still have a massive global reach, and the McDonald's brand of cheeseburgers, chicken nuggets and french fries remains recognizable around the world. But on its critical home turf, the company is toiling to stay relevant. Kale now appears in salads, fresh has replaced frozen beef patties



This Dec. 29, 2009 file photo shows a Big Mac hamburger at a McDonald's restaurant in North Huntingdon, Pa.

Associated Press

in Quarter Pounders, and some stores now offer ordering kiosks, food delivery and barista-style cafes.

The milestone for the Big Mac shows how much McDonald's and the rest of fast-food have evolved around it.

"Clearly, we've gotten a little more sophisticated in our menu development,"

McDonald's CEO Steve Easterbrook said in a phone interview.

As with many of its popular and long-lasting menu items, the idea for the Big Mac came from a franchisee.

In 1967, Michael James "Jim" Delligatti lobbied the company to let him test the burger at his Pittsburgh

restaurants. Later, he acknowledged the Big Mac's similarity to a popular sandwich sold by the Big Boy chain.

"This wasn't like discovering the light bulb. The bulb was already there. All I did was screw it in the socket," Delligatti said, according to "Behind the Arches."

McDonald's agreed to let

Delligatti sell the sandwich at a single location, on the condition that he use the company's standard bun. It didn't work. Delligatti tried a bigger sesame seed bun, and the burger soon lifted sales by more than 12 percent.

After similar results at more stores, the Big Mac was added to the national menu in 1968. Other ideas from franchisees that hit the big time include the Filet-O-Fish, Egg McMuffin, Apple Pie (once deep-fried but now baked), and the Shamrock Shake.

"The company has benefited from the ingenuity of its small business men," wrote Ray Kroc, who transformed the McDonald's into a global franchise, in his book, "Grinding It Out." Franchisees still play an important role, driving the recent switch to fresh from frozen for the beef in Quarter Pounders, Easterbrook says. They also participate in menu development, which in the U.S. has included a series of cooking tweaks intended to improve taste. □

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JULY 26 - AUGUST 1

**MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE
FALLOUT** [PG-13]
CXC PREMIUM LARGE FORMAT AUDITORIUM
2D MON-FRI 6:00 | 9:05
SAT-SUN 2:55 | 6:00 | 9:05
2D MON-THURS 4:45 | 7:50
FRIDAY 4:45 | 7:50 | 10:55
SATURDAY 1:40 | 4:45 | 7:50 | 10:55
SUN & HOL 1:40 | 4:45 | 7:50

THE INCREDIBLES [PG]
MON-THURS 4:40 | 6:45 | 8:50
FRIDAY 4:40 | 6:45 | 8:50 | 10:55
SATURDAY 2:35 | 4:40 | 6:45 | 8:50 | 10:55
SUN & HOL 2:35 | 4:40 | 6:45 | 8:50

BLINDSPOTTING [R]
DAVEED DIGGS | RAFAEL CASAL
MON-THURS & SUN 7:20 | 9:30
FRI-SAT 7:20 | 9:30 | 11:40

THE EQUALIZER [R]
DENZEL WASHINGTON | PEDRO PASCAL
MON-THURS & SUN 3:55 | 6:35 | 9:15
FRI-SAT 3:55 | 6:35 | 9:15 | 10:50

MAMMA MIA! [PG-13]
AMANDA SEYFRIED | MERYL STREEP
MON-THURS 4:10 | 6:40 | 9:10
FRIDAY 4:10 | 6:40 | 9:10 | 11:40
SATURDAY 1:40 | 4:10 | 6:40 | 9:10 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 1:40 | 4:10 | 6:40 | 9:10

SKYSCRAPER [PG-13]
DWAYNE JOHNSON | NEVE CAMPBELL
MON-THURS 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20
FRIDAY 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:35 | 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:35 | 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA [PG]
ADAM SANDLER | SELENA GOMEZ
MON-FRI 4:20 | 6:30 | 8:40
SAT & SUN 2:10 | 4:20 | 6:30 | 8:40

ANT-MAN AND THE WASP [PG-13]
PAUL RUDD | EVANGELINE LILLY
MON-FRI 4:45
SAT & SUN 2:10 | 4:45

STARTING AUGUST 2: DISNEY CHRISTOPHER ROBIN, THE DARKEST MINDS, SEARCHING, THE SPY WHO DUMPED ME

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M. Night Shyamalan debuts 'Glass' trailer at Comic-Con



In this Jan. 11, 2017 file photo, director M. Night Shyamalan poses during a photo call for the movie "Split" in Milan, Italy.

Associated Press

By LINDSEY BAHR

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Director M. Night Shyamalan says he could have launched the trailer for "Glass" in front of the summer's biggest movies in theaters, but that he wanted to

hold it for Comic-Con.

The filmmaker said Friday at the annual comic book convention that he felt strongly that the Hall H audience should be the first to see it.

"It was always meant for you guys," he said.

The kind of people who turn out for Comic-Con and wait in the massive and sometimes overnight line to get into Hall H are the same kind who once helped turn "Unbreakable" into an enduring film even after it got lukewarm reviews from critics.

"I've been dreaming about being in this hall forever," Shyamalan said.

"This is the mecca right here."

"Glass" melds the worlds of "Unbreakable" and "Split," two very different films about three very different superhumans, Samuel L. Jackson's fragile but brilliant Mr. Glass, Bruce Willis' strong and "unbreakable" David Dunn and James McAvoy's Kevin Wendell Crumb, who has 24 personalities. □

Huge sea-life sculptures made from ocean's plastic trash

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Huge sculptures of sea life are dotted about New Orleans' aquarium and zoo, all of them made from plastic trash that washed ashore. There's a great white shark made partly of bottle caps and beach toys and a jellyfish made mostly of cut-up water bottles.

The artwork, part of a project called Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea, is the creation of Angela Haseltine Pozzi, who started making the pieces after seeing plastic heaped by the waves onto Oregon's southern coast. Pozzi was in the town of Bandon, where her grandparents had lived, mourning her first husband's death.

"I'd known its beaches all my life," she said. "I went to the ocean to heal and found that the ocean needed healing."

She wants the scale of her creations to make people realize just how much plastic gets into the ocean — and to act on that knowledge. Signs next to each piece suggest simple ways to reduce the problem, such as not using plastic straws, re-using water bot-



In this photo taken July 26, 2018, Elizabeth Torres with husband Cory Torres, takes a photo of children, in New Orleans' Audubon Aquarium of the Americas.

Associated Press

ties, and picking up other people's litter.

"Every piece of trash picked up and properly disposed of is a piece that will not cause harm to local environments and animals," states the sign for "Greta the Great White Shark." Pozzi's aim is art that is "beautiful, and a little horrifying."

An army of volunteers in Oregon — about 10,000

since Pozzi started in 2010 — help her collect, prepare and assemble the beach trash into art. One of their wash-basins for plastic is a bathtub also found on the beach.

She now has more than 70 pieces in three exhibitions currently traveling the U.S., and has requests from overseas. Her work has been displayed at zoos, aquariums and botanical gardens,

and she has permanent exhibits at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and a gallery in Bandon. The Audubon Aquarium of the Americas is currently showing six sculptures, while one of a puffin is on display at the Audubon Zoo; more pieces will be added to both locations in October. In addition to the shark and two jellyfish sculptures, there's a walk-through

whale ribcage made with bucket lids, bottles, buoys and bait traps; a marlin with a beak made of fishing rods; and percussive "Musical Seaweed." That statue's long leaves include metal and plastic bottle caps strung on wires so they rattle when a leaf is hit lightly. Robert and Lauryn Geosits of Mandeville, Louisiana, were visiting with their three children.

"This is such a great idea for people to visualize just how much trash is in the ocean," said Lauryn Geosits.

Her husband read from a sign while their baby slept in a stroller and Chelsea, 7, and Preston, 8, searched the shark for the items he named: "There's a toy car bumper, bottle caps, beach toys, a lighter ..."

Asked about the strangest piece she's used, Pozzi said: "When you've processed more than 21 tons of debris into more than 70 pieces of art you've seen pretty much everything."

"One of the most shocking are bleach bottles that have bite marks from fish," Pozzi said.

A fish made entirely of fish-bitten plastic is among the pieces to be added in October. □

'Guardians' cast issues open letter in support of James Gunn

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chris Pratt and his fellow "Guardians of the Galaxy" cast-mates are coming out in support of ousted director James Gunn 10 days after his firing.

In an open letter Monday signed by Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Bradley Cooper, Vin Diesel and five other main stars of the franchise, the cast said it fully supports the director and the character he showed both on the set of the first two movies and in the wake of his firing.

Gunn was let go from directing the third installment of the franchise by The Walt Disney Co. after old tweets resurfaced where he joked about subjects like rape and pedophilia.

The cast says it waited 10



This combination photo shows "Guardians of the Galaxy" actors, Bradley Cooper, Chris Pratt and Zoe Saldana, who have issued an open letter in support of ousted director James Gunn.

Associated Press

days to issue a statement to "think, pray, listen and discuss." In the interim, various cast members, including Gunn's brother Sean Gunn, have issued individual statements. Fan petitions were also started online to

rehire Gunn.

"Each of us looks forward to working with our friend James again in the future," wrote the cast members, who said they were all shocked by the firing.

Pratt added in an Insta-

gram post that he would, "Personally love to see him reinstated as director of Volume 3."

"Although I don't support James Gunn's inappropriate jokes from years ago, he is a good man," Pratt

added.

The letter also discusses the climate that led to Gunn's abrupt firing and the lack of "due process in the court of public opinion."

Gunn's current Twitter account is heavy on left-leaning politics, and some on the right with whom he'd sparred found and promoted the tweets from 2008 to 2011 that led to his firing.

"James is likely not the last good person to be put on trial," the cast members continued. "Given the growing political divide in this country, it's safe to say instances like this will continue, although we hope Americans from across the political spectrum can ease up on the character assassination and stop weaponizing mob mentality." □

Frog symphony and ancient trees in a verdant Louisiana swamp

By BETH J. HARPAZ

Associated Press

MARRERO, La. (AP) — It was 93 degrees and humid when I set out on a 4-mile stroll through a Louisiana swamp.

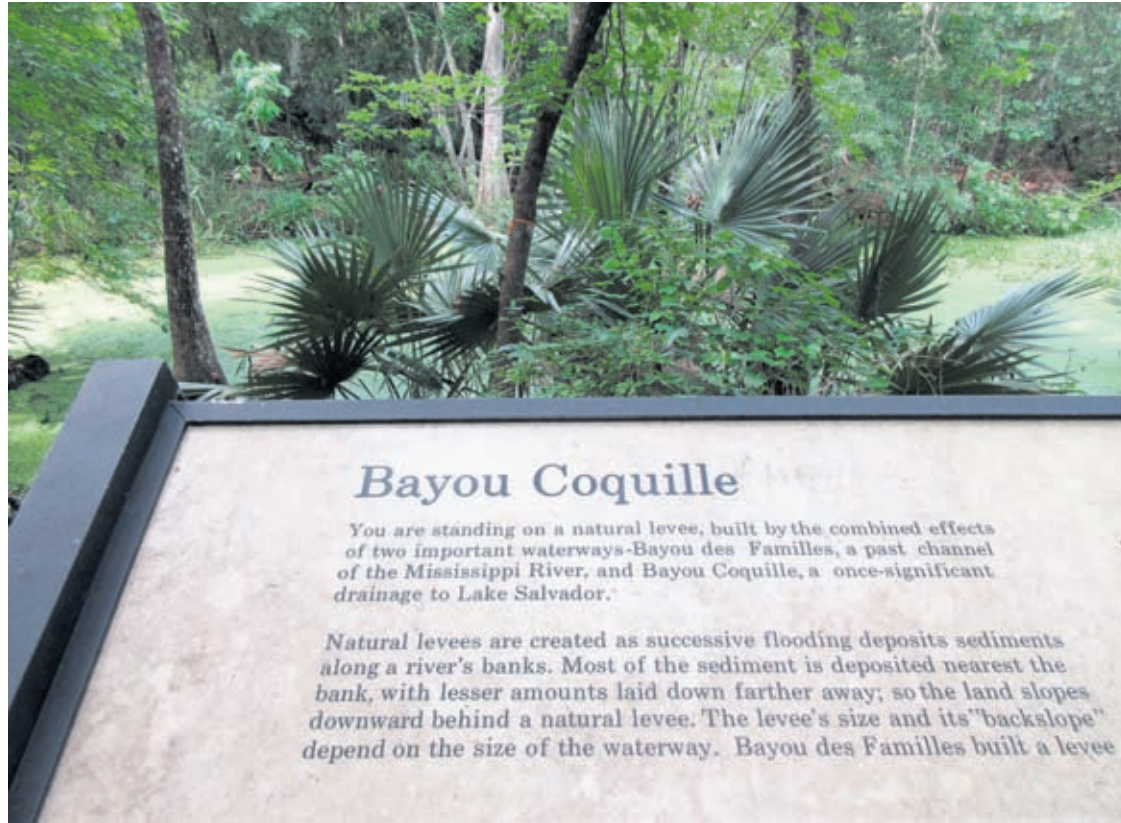
Crazy, you say? But let me tell you what I found there, in the Barataria Preserve of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve.

A symphony of frogs. A 700-year-old tree. And a verdant landscape of dripping moss and neon green that seemed to melt with the heat into the woods and wetlands.

Fan-shaped palmettos waved hello along the trails. Strange formations of cypress trees known as knees pushed up through the swampland. Moss cascaded from branches overhead. I half-expected to spot a mythical creature like the rougarou — half-wolf, half-man in Cajun folklore — lurking in the forest. But no werewolves or fairies crossed my path, though I was startled by the creepy sight of a couple of alligators floating motionless and half-submerged in dark waters.

I was also enchanted by the continuous soundscape of creatures bay-ing, chirping and croaking, from bronze frogs that sound like bicycle horns to narrowmouth toads that sound like sheep.

That night, back in my air-conditioned hotel room a half-hour drive from the park in New Orleans,



This June 3, 2018 photo shows sign marking Bayou Coquille on trail in the Barataria Preserve, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Marrero, Louisiana, just outside of New Orleans.

I tweeted out a few seconds of a video I'd taken on my cellphone, showing the wet, green world I'd encountered, along with its natural soundtrack. A short time later, the park's official Twitter feed, @JeanLafitteNPS, retweeted it with this message: "That's the way to stand up to a south Louisiana summer — pack a bottle of water & stroll thru the swamp."

I had to find out who was behind this empowering never-mind-the-weather message, and a couple of phone calls led me to Kristy Wallisch, a park ranger who handles Jean Lafitte's

public information.

"Traditionally summer is our low season because it's very hot," Wallisch said. But while locals head to Gulf Coast beaches this time of year to escape the heat and humidity, the park does get out-of-towners — like me. "Kids are out of school, people are traveling, and they're saying, 'OK, it's going to be hot and humid, but we're also going to see and hear amazing things we're never going to see and hear anywhere else,'" she said, adding: "You'll forget the heat and humidity three days later. But you'll always remember what a wonderful time you had."

The Barataria Preserve is one of six distinct sites that make up Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve. The other sites include a visitor center in New Orleans' famous French Quarter and the Chalmette Battlefield, where the Battle of New Orleans was fought in 1815. It was the final great battle of the War of 1812, in which Andrew Jackson led the Americans to a David-versus-Goliath triumph over British forces.

Jackson owed his victory in part to the man for whom the park is named: Jean Lafitte. Lafitte was a pri-

spot today.

Another sign showcases the "Monarch of the Swamp," a massive old-growth bald cypress tree estimated to be 700 years old. These trees were prized in the South because they were resistant to termites, so many of them were cut down.

"We always wonder why that one survived," Wallisch said of the Monarch, adding that the joke goes that loggers must have encountered it on a Friday afternoon when they were ready to knock off work and said, "We're not starting on that tree today!"

Hikers might also see lizards and snakes — but if you do, don't panic: "For the most part, they are not interested in us at all. They just want to go about their snaky business," Wallisch said. And if you see a white-tailed deer, you might notice that it appears smaller than deer in other regions but with bigger feet. "They adapted," Wallisch said. "They evolved with those feet because it's easier to walk on wet ground."

The preserve is a great spot for birding too, especially in fall and spring as millions of birds head south to Central or South America for the winter, then return.

For tourists taking a side trip to the park from New Orleans, it's interesting to consider that the preserve "is pretty much what New Orleans looked like" when European settlers arrived 300 years ago. □

Associated Press

vateer — OK, let's just call him a pirate — who supplied Jackson with soldiers, guns and more. Had Lafitte shown up at the docks in New Orleans with his contraband, he would have had to pay taxes on it. Instead, he used the waterways as back roads. Some of his operations were based where the Barataria Preserve is now.

My visit included a walk on the Palmetto Trail and the Bayou Coquille Trail. Coquille is the French word for shell, named for an enormous mound of shells discarded by Native Americans who once inhabited the area. A sign marks that



This June 3, 2018 photo shows a verdant landscape in the Barataria Preserve, part of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Marrero, Louisiana, just outside of New Orleans.

Associated Press



This June 3, 2018 photo shows a walkway in the Barataria Preserve, part of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Marrero, Louisiana, just outside of New Orleans.

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